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COUNTRY LIFE

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COUNTRY LIFE

Vol. C. No. 2605

DECEMBER 20, 1946

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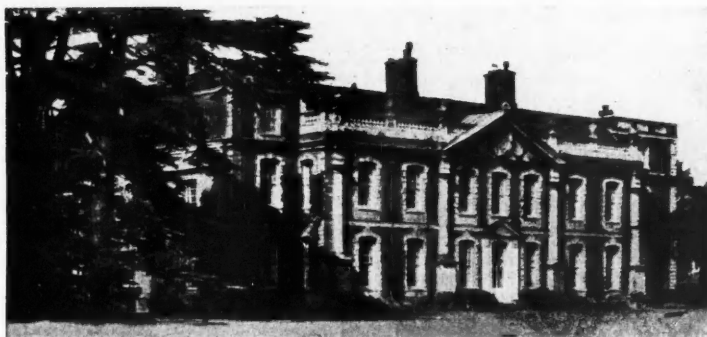
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BANK FARM, ODCOMBE, NEAR YEOVIL Attractive late Georgian Residence

Mellowed brick front, approached through garden. Containing hallway, 2 reception, 3 bedrooms, boxroom (conversion bathroom), kitchen, dairy, larder, etc. Main water, Electricity and telephone outside. Farm buildings comprise stalling for 11 cows, stabling, barn, orchard, 4 enclosures pasture.

ABOUT 16 ACRES. VACANT POSSESSION
Auction, unless previously sold privately, at the Half Moon Hotel, Yeovil, on Friday, January 10, 1947, at 3 p.m.

Particulars, 6d. each, from Lawyers: BATTEN & CO., Yeovil. Auctioneers: JACKSON-STOPS & STAFF, Hendford, Yeovil. (Tel.: 1066).

BETWEEN LONDON AND THE COAST

Amid surroundings of singular beauty.
THIS FINE GEORGIAN RESIDENCE



Price moderate with the benefit of substantial derequisition claim.
JACKSON-STOPS & STAFF, 8, Hanover Street, W.1 (Mayfair 3316/7).

Commanding extensive views and seated in a beautiful park with stream and lake.

Fourteen bedrooms, 5 bathrooms, 4 reception rooms, garage, stabling.

Lodge and cottages.
MAIN WATER AND ELECTRICITY.

Delightful gardens, meadowland and woodland, the whole extending to about 300 ACRES.

BUCKS ATTRACTIVE COUNTRY RESIDENCE *on high ground with fine views.*

Hall, 2-3 reception rooms, 8 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms.

COMPANY'S ELECTRIC LIGHT AND WATER.

CENTRAL HEATING.

Garden, paddock.

3 ACRES

FOR SALE AT A REASONABLE FIGURE
Agents: Messrs. JACKSON-STOPS & STAFF, Northampton.



Grosvenor 3121
(3 lines)

WINKWORTH & CO.

48, CURZON STREET, MAYFAIR, LONDON, W.1

BUCKS

500 ft. up. Extensive views.
Sandy soil. Close to village.

A WELL-FITTED COUNTRY HOUSE

Six best bedrooms, dressing rooms, 4 bathrooms, staff rooms, lounge hall and 3 fine reception rooms. Main water, electricity and gas. Stabling, garage, cottage. Walled garden. Hard tennis court, in all

36 ACRES.

PRICE £10,000

London Agents:
WINKWORTH & Co., 48, Curzon Street, W.1.



SURREY

Facing South, with fine views over an area of Common.
1½ miles from Station, with electric trains taking under 1 hour to Town.



On high ground and reached by a drive.

A RESTORED TUDOR FARM-HOUSE

Comprising 5 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms and 2 reception rooms, with staff cottage of 2 rooms and bath in addition, also delightful barn room, 60 ft. by 20 ft. Fitted with Main water and electricity. Central heating. Garage. Simply disposed gardens, grounds and paddocks, in all

ABOUT 16 ACRES. PRICE £12,750

Owner's Agents: WINKWORTH & Co., 48, Curzon Street, Mayfair, London, W.1.

KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY

NEAR NORFOLK COAST

Within 20 miles of Norwich.

Medium-sized Georgian House situated within a mile of the sea.



Three reception rooms, loggia. Servants' sitting room. Complete domestic offices with "Aga" cooker. Six bedrooms (4 with basins h. and c.), 2 dressing rooms, 3 bathrooms. Main electricity. Good water supply. Water softener.

Central heating.

Two garages. Cowhouse for 6. Two loose boxes. Dairy. Squash court.

Bull yard and loose box

Two five-roomed cottages, one Vacant Possession.

Attractive gardens. Orchard. Woodland. Pasture.

IN ALL 26½ ACRES. FOR SALE FREEHOLD WITH POSSESSION

Sole Agents: Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY. (43,162)

By direction of Lieut.-Col. T.K. Campbell

"MEADOWLANDS" DURSLEY

2 miles station. 2½ miles from the Berkeley Kennels and 3 miles Stinchcombe Hill Golf Course. 12 miles Stroud, 15 miles Gloucester. Picturesque country. Extensive views.



Stone and brick Residence (about 150 years old), completely modernised and in excellent repair.

Hall, cloakroom (h. and c.) and w.c., 3 reception rooms, 5 principal and 3 servants' bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, domestic offices with servants' sitting room.

Central heating, electric light, modern drainage.

Double garage, stabling for 4, cowshed for 6. Cottage.

Well-maintained gardens, lawn, walled kitchen garden, paddocks, orchard. ABOUT 16 ACRES. FOR SALE FREEHOLD. VACANT POSSESSION.

Sole Agents: Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY. (43,139)

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20, HANOVER SQUARE, LONDON, W.1

WILTSHIRE DOWNS

Delightful position some 400 feet up on greensand soil with lovely views. 1 mile station, main line trains to Paddington in 2 hours, connect from Westbury (4 miles).

A stone and brick Residence of 15th-century structure (reconstructed in 1909), with stone mulioned casement windows. Compactly planned, thoroughly modernised and in good order.

Oak-panelled lounge hall, cloakroom (h. and c.) and w.c., 3 reception rooms, 6 principal, 2 servants' bedrooms and dressing room, 2 bathrooms, domestic offices, Aga Cooker.

Central heating, main electric light, power, gas and water. Septic tank drainage.

Double garage, stabling, useful outbuildings, cottage.

Pleasingly disposed grounds including brick rose pergola, lawns, herbaceous borders, productive kitchen garden, asparagus beds, formal and fruit gardens, paddock, etc. In all ABOUT 4½ ACRES. FOR SALE FREEHOLD. IMMEDIATE POSSESSION.

Sole Agents: Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY. (6,440)



4 MILES WEST OF TONBRIDGE

DELIGHTFUL UNSPOILT PART SURROUNDED BY LANDED ESTATES. Beautiful position 300 feet up on a southern slope with lovely views. Close to picturesque village. 4 miles main line. (London 45 minutes.)

Well-built and equipped picturesque modern House, brick, white rough cast with tiled roof. Protected by woodland and approached by a long gravel drive.

Accommodation on two floors only. Lounge hall, cloakroom, 3 reception rooms, sun lounge, 9 bedrooms and dressing room, 3 bathrooms. Central heating throughout. Companies' electric light, power and water. Modern septic tank drainage. Garage.

Excellent LODGE

The grounds are a feature and include stone-walled terrace, rock garden, formal rose garden, lawns, herbaceous borders, hard tennis court, lily pool. Orchard, kitchen garden, about 25 acres of wood and parkland.

ABOUT 38 ACRES. FOR SALE FREEHOLD

Agents: Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY. (36,634)



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NICHOLAS

(Established 1882)

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SUSSEX

Guildford and Horsham (between).

FOR SALE WITH EARLY POSSESSION, A COMFORTABLE

WELL-PLANNED COUNTRY HOUSE

in a delightful rural position on rising ground with extensive views over the South Downs. Easily accessible to Horsham and the coast by bus service.

Three reception rooms, 6 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, light and airy domestic offices.

CENTRAL HEATING, MAIN ELECTRIC LIGHT, COMPANY'S WATER.

Cottage, garage (2 cars), stabling, outbuildings.

Well laid out gardens and grounds, with double grass tennis court, flower and kitchen gardens, large orchard with matured trees. Paddock and arable land.

IN ALL ABOUT 12¾ ACRES

Further particulars on application to the Sole Agents, as above.

By direction of Miss Deborah Kerr.

SUSSEX "A PERFECT GEM"

GENUINE TUDOR FARMHOUSE RESIDENCE KNOWN AS "BASSETTS," MAYFIELD

Situated on high ground on the outskirts of this favoured village.

The property has been skilfully adapted with all modern conveniences without losing the "old-world charm."

Five bedrooms with basins, dressing room, 2 reception rooms, loggia, bathroom, kitchen. CENTRAL HEATING, MAIN ELECTRIC LIGHT AND POWER, COMPANY'S WATER AND GAS.

Garage, outbuildings. Attractively laid out gardens with paddock.

IN ALL ABOUT 5½ ACRES

which will be offered for Sale by Auction (unless previously disposed of) at The Swan Hotel, Tunbridge Wells, on Friday, January 17, 1947.

Illustrated particulars and plan on application to the Auctioneers, 4, Albany Court Yard, Piccadilly, W.1, and Reading.

OXFORD
4637/8

JAMES STYLES & WHITLOCK

OXFORD AND CHIPPING NORTON

CHIPPING
NORTON
39

Fresh in the Market.

NORTH COTSWOLDS

Stow-on-the-Wold 4 miles.

Enjoying uninterrupted rural views on all sides.

AN ATTRACTIVE MODERN RESIDENCE

Enlarged and equipped for labour-saving management just prior to the war and containing, briefly, large drawing room, dining room, study, excellent domestic offices, 6 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, large storage attic. Main electric light and power, main water supply, modern drainage system, central heating throughout, telephone.

Garage and farm buildings garden, orchard and meadowland.

IN ALL ABOUT 9 ACRES

VACANT POSSESSION UPON COMPLETION

PRICE FREEHOLD £6,750

ALL REASONABLE OFFERS CONSIDERED FOR QUICK SALE

Sole Agents: JAMES STYLES & WHITLOCK, Oxford.

OUTSKIRTS OF OXFORD CITY

A CHARMING 16th-CENTURY STONE BUILT AND TILED FARMHOUSE RESIDENCE

Enjoying very fine views and containing, briefly, 3 sitting rooms, 5 bedrooms, bathroom, and storage attic. Gas, main water supply, modern drainage. Main electricity available for connection. Billiards or playroom, with loft over. Ample other outbuildings, including fine barn. Pleasure grounds, kitchen garden and productive orchard.

IN ALL ABOUT 2 ACRES

FOUR-ROOMED COTTAGE.

FOR SALE FREEHOLD, WITH VACANT POSSESSION

Sole Agents: JAMES STYLES & WHITLOCK, Oxford



HAMPTON & SONS

6, ARLINGTON STREET, ST. JAMES'S, S.W.1

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NEAR SEVENOAKS

CHOICE MODERN RESIDENCE

In Farmhouse style.

Three reception rooms, 6 bed and dressing rooms, 3 bathrooms, staff quarters.

CENTRAL HEATING. MAIN SERVICES.

GARAGE.



GROUPS OF 3 ACRES

Also Farmhouse, outbuildings and 9 acres if desired.

£15,000 FREEHOLD FOR WHOLE,
would separate.

Joint Agents: Messrs. F. D. IBBETT,
MOSELY, CARD & CO., 125, High Street,
Sevenoaks, and HAMPTON & SONS, LTD.,
6, Arlington Street, St. James's, S.W.1.
(K.48,419)

SURREY

In the favoured Haslemere district.
Beautiful position and views. 1 mile of station.



AN ATTRACTIVE MODERN RESIDENCE

Hall, 2 reception rooms, 4 bedrooms, bathroom, kitchen with Aga cooker.
MAIN SERVICES. GARAGE.

Charming grounds of about 1 ACRE with many pleasing features.

FREEHOLD £7,500

Particulars of Agents: HAMPTON & SONS, LTD., 6, Arlington Street, St. James's,
S.W.1. (S.43,822a)

FREEHOLD £6,750

Occupying a quiet and restful position in an unspoilt village between Twyford and Reading.
ON BERKS AND OXON BORDERS



THIS DELIGHTFUL PERIOD RESIDENCE

modernised, in secluded and well-kept picturesque gardens. Hall, charming lounge with heavily timbered ceiling, 2 reception rooms, 5 or 7 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms and compact domestic offices.

Gravel soil. Main services. Partial central heating. BUILT-IN GARAGE. Quiet and secluded gardens affording an old-world atmosphere, partly enclosed by mellow brick walls; lawn, rose and flower borders, etc. in all about 1/2 ACRE.
Sole Agents: HAMPTON & SONS, LTD., 6, Arlington Street, St. James's, S.W.1
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BRANCH OFFICES: WIMBLEDON COMMON, S.W.19 (Tel.: WIM. 0081) & BISHOP'S STORTFORD (Tel. 243)

CLASSIFIED PROPERTIES

2/- per line. (Min. 3 lines.) Box fee 1/6.

FOR SALE

BEXHILL-ON-SEA. A most imposing Residence situated in the best part of the town, only half a mile from sea and station. Five principal bedrooms (all with basins), 3 maids' rooms, 3 bathrooms, studio or billiards room, 3 reception rooms with fine stone fireplaces, good domestic offices. Central heating. Garage. About 1 acre of garden. Immediate possession. £7,000.—WATTS & SON, Chartered Surveyors, Wokingham, Berks. Tel. 777.

BEXHILL-ON-SEA. Country Residence with small home farm of about 42 acres, entrance lodge and period cottage. Vacant possession of residence with 7 bedrooms, 3 reception rooms, dressing room, bathroom, servants' accommodation and domestic offices. Freehold £11,000.—Apply: DRIVERS, JONAS AND CO., 7, Charles II Street, St. James's Square, S.W.1. Tel.: Whitehall 3911.

CITY OF BATH. An attractive Residence of character built of Bath stone on high ground south side of city, containing large tiled hall with mah. doors, curved roof, elec. heated conservatory, 3 rec., 5 bedrooms, bathroom, 2 W.C.s, usual well-fitted offices. Large garden and lawns. Heated garage. Vac. Poss. Freehold price £3,500.—Particulars: W. J. TOLLEY & HILL, Auctioneers, 58, Baldwin Street, Bristol.

DENBIGH SOME 1 1/2 MILES. In the Vale of Clwyd about 13 miles from North Wales coast and amidst delightful scenery. For sale by private treaty, a Country Residence known as Ystrad. Occupying a magnificent position in unspoilt countryside. A fine Georgian Residence containing 4 reception rooms, 6 principal bedrooms with 2 dressing rooms, 3 secondary bedrooms, billiards room, 3 servant's rooms, 3 bathrooms. Well-planned domestic offices. Main electricity. Central heating. Fine stabling and garages. Two cottages. Park and tiled land. In all approx. 17 acres. Grounds of natural beauty, economical of maintenance. Moderate sized well-kept garden. The residence has been well maintained under private lease and early occupation of the residence and cottages can be arranged. Inspection by appointment.—Illustrated particulars from H. V. KITCHING, F.S.I., Chartered Surveyor and Land Agent, Wrexham. Vendor's Solicitors: Messrs. PARRY JONES, FRANCIS & JOHNSON, Hall Square, Denbigh.

EASTBOURNE 4 miles. Just off main Eastbourne-Brighton Coast Road. Suitable for Private Family Residence or as a Road or Guest House. Accommodation: 10 bedrooms, 3 reception rooms, bath, usual offices, garage and stabling. Gardens extending to 3 1/2 acres. For sale with vacant possession.—Apply: OAKDEN & CO., 24, Cornfield Road, Eastbourne. Tel. 1234.

FOR SALE

FIRE. For sale in the County of Meath, in the vicinity of the town of Navan and Kells, three Farms with excellent up-to-date residences thereon, own lighting and water supply, containing 300 acres, 400 acres and 500 acres of first-class fattening land, very suitable for stud farming. The properties have good farm yards and stabling, workers' cottages. Also for sale in Co. Meath, an historic Mansion with E.S.B. lighting and town water supply, with stabling, yard, garden and gardener's house.—For further particulars apply to: OUVRY & Co., 2 and 3, The Sanctuary, Westminster.

GUILDFORD AND WOKING (between). Small old Cottage built 1835, detached and freehold, recently decorated, off village green. Four rooms, kitchen and bathroom, all on one floor. Gas, electricity, main water. Internal Elsan sanitation. 1 1/2 acres garden and orchard. £2,250.—Box 949.

HANTS. Near Andover. For sale freehold, attractive small Manor House, in a well-timbered 18-acre park. Two drives, good lodge. Four reception rooms, 10 bedrooms, 3 bath, 2 staff rooms. Stabling. Garage. Central heating. Main electric light. Matured grounds. Productive walled kitchen and fruit garden. Glasshouses. Vacant possession. Only £7,500, or more land and second lodge if required. A bargain.—Sole Agents: MYDDLETON & MAJOR, Salisbury. Phone 2110.

HORSHAM (NEAR). In a beautiful part, a delightful Country Property close to a picturesque old-world village 3 miles from Horsham. Well-built modern residence, comprising 5 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 3 reception rooms, cloakroom, excellent offices. Main water and electricity. Central heating. Garage and stabling. Tennis court, several paddocks. In all about 21 acres. Price freehold £8,000 or near offer.—KING & CHASEMORE, Horsham. Phone 111.

MINEHEAD. Attractive Residence on North Hill, overlooking sea. 3-4 rec. rooms, 7 bedrooms, bathroom. Lawns and gardens nearly 1 acre. Stabling and garage. To be sold. Freehold.—Apply: HEDLEY RENDELL, House Agent, Minehead.

NEWBURY 1 1/2 MILES. Lease for sale. Beautiful Georgian House in lovely setting, quite rural. Ten beds, 3 bath 4 reception. Cottage and outbuildings. Timbered grounds and paddocks in all 8 acres. Rent only £170 p.a. Premium £500. Immediate possession.—A. W. NEATE & SONS, Estate Agents, Newbury.

NORTH HEREFORDSHIRE. Attractive 16th-century black and white Cottage. 9 1/2 acres orchard and pasture-orchard. Freehold. Possession on completion. Offers over £3,500.—Box 952.

FOR SALE

SOUTHAMPTON 8 1/2 MILES. Country House, well planned and situated. Six bed and dressing rooms with basins h. and c., 2 maids' bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, spacious hall, 3 reception rooms, maids' sitting room, good offices. Main water, gas, electricity. Central heating. Lovely garden well stocked and cultivated. The whole in excellent order. Price £7,500.—Box 955.

S. CORNISH HARBOUR. A mile of frontage. An attractive Residence with first-class deep water frontage of a mile or more and excellent safe yacht anchorage. Beautiful gardens, grounds, and small farm, totalling 20 acres, with run of buildings, 3 fine cottages, bathhouse, slipway and quay, waterside walks, etc. Residence comprises: Lobby, hall, 4 reception, 6 principal, 5 secondary and 3 attic bedrooms, various store and linen rooms, 2 bathrooms, 4 W.C.s and cloakroom. Partial central heating. Main electricity, spring water (main coming), modern drainage. Telephone. Vacant possession. Freehold. Price £17,500.—Apply Sole Agents: STOCKTON & PLUMSTEAD, Mawna, Falmouth. Ref. 8002.

SURREY. Charming property in unspoilt lovely surroundings (Waterloo 50 min.). Half-timbered House, extraordinarily pretty inside and out, ready to walk into, panelled hall, 2 rec., 5 bed (3 basins), bath. Co.'s mains, central heating. Garage, sun loggia. Attractively laid-out flower, kitchen and wild garden of 2 acres. Near golf. Immediate possession. £9,500.—Box 957.

SUSSEX. Haywards Heath. A detached Modern Labour-saving Residence most pleasantly situated and affording 3 bedrooms, a dressing room, large bathroom, lounge 20 ft. x 13 ft. 6 in., dining room, kitchen and built-in garage. All main services. Half acre garden. Ideally situated for daily travel to London. Haywards Heath Station 12 minutes walk. Freehold £4,850.—WM. WOOD, SON AND GARDNER, Auctioneers, Land Agents, Crawley. Tel.: 1 (3 lines).

WANTED

GLOUCESTERSHIRE OR ADJOINING COUNTIES. Wanted by applicant to purchase, Farm-house with about 5 bedrooms and usual outbuildings. 50-100 acres, secluded position preferred, vacant possession.—Details to "H." c/o LOFTS & WARNER, 41, Berkeley Square, London, W.1.

MIDLAND OR SOUTHERN COUNTIES. Ground Rents. Large block of Freehold Ground Rents near any prosperous city or town required by Real Estate Investment Company.—Particulars to Purchaser's Agents: BRIGHT WILLIS & SON, F.A.I., 1, Waterloo Street, Birmingham 2. Tel.: Central 2238. (And at Solihull, Warwickshire.)

WANTED

ANY SOUTHERN COUNTRY SO LONG AS IN GENUINE RURAL AREA. Wanted, "old world" atmosphere, essential though a more recent house with picturesque appearance or possibilities considered. Ideal would be genuine old property in bad order offering scope for renovation. Accommodation and price of secondary importance but approximate requirements 4-6 bed, 2-10 acres and say £4,000 to £7,000 according to condition.—"R.S.R." c/o WATTS & SON, Chartered Surveyors, Wokingham, Berkshire. Tel. 777.

OUTER ISLES, OR WEST HIGHLAND COAST. Croft or Cottage wanted to purchase. Good fishing, sea trout preferred; rough shooting.—Box 954.

TO LET

COTSWOLDS. 5 miles Cheltenham. Well-furnished Flat to let, 2 bedrooms, 1 sitting room, bathroom, kitchen, electric light, central heating. Garden, stabling, garage. Good hunting centre, horses kept. Shooting.—Box 953.

ITALIAN RIVIERA. To let or for sale. Villas and Apartments, furnished or unfurnished, in beautiful Rapallo, Santa Margherita and Porto Fino areas.—Full particulars from: AGENZIA MODIRNA, Sig. Michele Frasca, Corso Matteotti, Rapallo, Italy.

NEWTON HALL. Grantham 9 miles, Sheaford 8 miles. To be let on lease unfurnished with immediate possession. Entrance hall, 4 reception rooms, cloakroom, 7 principal bed and dressing rooms, 3 bathrooms, 4 servants' bedrooms. Excellent domestic offices, with Esso cooker. Servants' hall. Garage for 3 cars. Private electric light plant. Main water. Telephones. Good gardens with heated greenhouses. Four-roomed lodge. Another cottage with 5 rooms and bath. Also shooting over 2,000 acres of and surrounding Newton Hall and including 66 acres coverts and keeper's cottage, available for season 1947-48 and after. Home Farm, 255 acres, with good house, buildings and two or three cottages, also available at Lady Day, 1947, if required.—Further particulars and permits to view from: V. B. PUNCHARD, Estate Office, Denton, Grantham. Tel.: Kington 68.

SUSSEX (W.). To rent furnished, very modern attractive House, enclosed 3 acres, 5 bedrooms (including maids'), 3 bath, 2 reception. Electricity, central heating. Garage, garden, hard tennis court. Golf course near, buses pass drive, 1 1/2 hours' train journey from London.—Apply: Messrs. FRANK NEWMAN & SON, Chartered Surveyors and Land Agents, 34, Savile Row, London, W.1.

Regent
4304

OSBORN & MERCER

28b, ALBEMARLE ST.,
PICCADILLY, W.1

MEMBERS OF THE CHARTERED SURVEYORS' AND AUCTIONEERS' INSTITUTES

NORTH HAMPSHIRE

*In lovely undulating country between Andover and Newbury.*THE ATTRACTIVE SMALL BRICK-BUILT
RESIDENCE

known as

SUNNYMEADE
HURSTBOURNE TARRANT*Situate in the village with principal aspects of South and South-West and conveniently placed for excellent bus services to the surrounding towns.*

Three reception rooms, 4-5 bedrooms, bathroom, excellent domestic offices.

Main electric light and power.

Small walled-in garden with lawn, herbaceous border, vegetable plot, etc.

To be sold by Public Auction at the Star and Garter Hotel, Andover, on Thursday, January 16, 1947, at 2.30 p.m. (unless previously disposed of by private treaty).

Solicitors: Messrs. THEODORE GODDARD & Co., 5, New Court, Lincoln's Inn, W.C.2.

Auctioneers: Messrs. OSBORN & MERCER, 28b, Albemarle Street, Piccadilly, W.1.

HEREFORDSHIRE

*Situate in a splendid position about 2½ miles from Ross-on-Wye***A DELIGHTFUL COUNTRY RESIDENCE**
Built of old red sandstone and having principal aspects of South and South-East.

Hall, 3 reception rooms, 7-9 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, excellent offices with staff sitting-room.

Main electricity. Excellent water supply.

SPLENDID COTTAGE

Two Garages, Stabling, Outbuildings.

Lovely old-world garden with fine specimen trees, tennis court, prolific walled kitchen garden, productive orchard, meadowland, etc. In all

ABOUT 13 ACRES.

FOR SALE FREEHOLD

Agents: OSBORN & MERCER, as above. (17,786)

BERKS

BETWEEN TWYFORD AND WOKINGHAM

*In a quiet rural position in a delightful old village about 7 miles from Reading and about 10 miles from Maidenhead.***A CHARMING OLD-WORLD COTTAGE RESIDENCE**

completely modernised and redecorated throughout. Hall, 3 reception rooms, 3 bedrooms, bathroom.

Main electricity, gas and water.

Garage. Stable with loft over.

The gardens are well timbered, well maintained and include lawns, flower beds and borders, prolific kitchen garden, etc., in all

ABOUT ¾ ACRE.

FOR SALE FREEHOLD. EARLY POSSESSION

Sole Agents: OSBORN & MERCER, as above. (17,785)

HAYWARDS HEATH

*Occupying an excellent position within convenient reach of shops, churches, schools and station.***A WELL-BUILT MODERN HOUSE**

with hall, 3 reception rooms, 8 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms.

Main electricity, water, gas and drainage.

Garage, stabling, outbuildings.

Well laid out gardens, kitchen garden, fruit trees, etc., in all

ABOUT 1 ACRE.

FOR SALE FREEHOLD. VACANT POSSESSION

Sole Agents: OSBORN & MERCER, as above. (17,761)

3, MOUNT ST.,
LONDON, W.1

RALPH PAY & TAYLOR

Grosvenor
1032-33

CITY BUSINESS MAN'S OPPORTUNITY

Liverpool Street in half an hour. Station only half a mile.ARCHITECT-DESIGNED HOUSE OF METICULOUS
CHARM

Extensive views to distant forest land. Lounge (oak panelled), 3 reception, 9 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, all main services, power, central heating. Garages. Well matured gardens, tennis court, etc., bounded by small river.

OVER 2 ACRES. PRICE FREEHOLD £9,000
Personally recommended by RALPH PAY & TAYLOR, as above

FIVE MILES SOUTH OF CHELMSFORD

Splendid opportunity for fruit growing or small scale farming. All land tile or mole drained and exceptionally frost-free, producing full crops annually.

MEDIUM SIZED GEORGIAN HOUSE EASILY MAINTAINED

UNEXPECTEDLY FOR SALE WITH POSSESSION

Four reception rooms, conservatory, 7 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. Central heating (everywhere). Main water connected. Electricity (50-volt plant) but main supply available very shortly. Garages, stabling, range of useful outbuildings. Two bungalows (brick built), each with 5 rooms, bath and main water. Matured gardens. Small lake. Orchard (standard trees), producing several tons annually of dessert and culinary fruit. A further 6 acres planted with dessert apples, 6 acres of wheat, oats and beans (to provide food for stock). GRASSLAND OF 15 ACRES.

IN ALL OVER 31 ACRES.

PRICE FREEHOLD £12,500

MACHINERY FOR CULTIVATION (principal items new, only having had one season's work) can be purchased most reasonably if required.

Recommended with every confidence by Sole Agents: RALPH PAY & TAYLOR, as above.

F. L. MERCER & CO.

Regent 2481

SACKVILLE HOUSE, 40, PICCADILLY, W.1

SURREY—Favourite Cobham District
17 miles London.

A very well fitted country house. Panelled lounge hall, 3 reception, 8 principal bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, staff quarters. Central heating. Main services. Garage.

Cottage. 6 ACRES. Moderate price.

Joint Agents: HAMPTON & SONS, 6, Arlington Street, S.W.1 (Regent 8222) and F. L. MERCER & Co., 40, Piccadilly, W.1 (Tel.: Regent 2481).

RURAL HERTS.

18 miles from London. Adjacent to open common and commanding unspoilt views.



Beautifully equipped Georgian Residence modernised regardless of cost. Lounge hall, 4 reception rooms, 7 principal bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, staff quarters. Central heating. Main services. Cottage. Garage. Stabling. Inexpensive gardens, orchard and paddock.

9 ACRES. FREEHOLD. MODERATE PRICE.

Sole Agents: F. L. MERCER & Co., Sackville House, 40, Piccadilly, W.1 (Tel.: Regent 2481).

WILTS—Near Badminton and Chippenham

Excellent polo and hunting country.

Well-equipped stone-built Residence of considerable charm. Four reception rooms, 8 principal bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, staff quarters. Central heating. Modern conveniences. Large garage; 21 loose boxes. Three cottages.

160 ACRES. £14,500.

Agents: F. L. MERCER & Co., Sackville House, 40, Piccadilly, London, W.1. (Tel.: Regent 2481).

184, BROMPTON ROAD,
LONDON, S.W.3

BENTALL, HORSLEY & BALDRY

Kensington
9152-3

SUSSEX. FEW MILES COAST.

Gentleman's Small Farm

PICTURESQUE TUDOR FARMHOUSE full of lovely old oak, modernised, with every convenience.

Two reception, 6 bed., bath., main electricity, main water, excellent buildings, cowhouse for 24, 2 cottages. 137 ACRES with trout stream. Very low outgoings. IMMEDIATE POSSESSION.

FREEHOLD. TEMPTING PRICE.

BENTALL, HORSLEY & BALDRY, 184, Brompton Road, S.W.3. (Ken. 0152).

WEST SUSSEX GEM

Fascinating Black and White 16th-Century Cottage-Residence full of lovely old oak with main electricity and Co.'s water. Two reception, 3 beds, bath, together with buildings and nearly

6 ACRES GRASS

FREEHOLD £5,950

Just the type so much in demand but so difficult to find. Admired by all.

BENTALL, HORSLEY & BALDRY, 184, Brompton Road, S.W.3 (Ken. 0152).

HERTS

SMALL RESIDENTIAL FARM

Easy daily reach London. Outskirts of ancient village.

Hobby and Profit Holding. 9 acres. Orchards, dairy, poultry. Nice house with every convenience. Two reception, 3 bed., large bathroom, excellent offices, perfect order. Good dairy farm buildings.

IMMEDIATE POSSESSION

FREEHOLD £4,500

BENTALL, HORSLEY & BALDRY, 184, Brompton Road, S.W.3 (Ken. 0152).

HISTORICAL TUDOR FARM HOUSE
NEAR SUSSEX COAST

Completely modernised with main electricity and Co.'s water and full of old oak. Two large reception, 6 good bed., large bathroom, nice garden, up-to-date farmery and nearly 70 ACRES

For Sale Freehold with Possession

Very attractive property.

Recommended: BENTALL, HORSLEY AND BALDRY, 184, Brompton Road, S.W.3 (Ken. 0152).

GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS

(ESTABLISHED 1778)

25, MOUNT ST., GROSVENOR SQ., W.1

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and 68, Victoria St.,
Westminster, S.W.1Grosvenor 1553
(4 lines)

SURREY

Station under one mile. London 22 miles. 400 feet above sea. Close to a golf course.



THIS BEAUTIFUL PERIOD STYLE RESIDENCE

in a delightful position contains: Nine bed and dressing rooms, 3 bathrooms, 3 reception rooms. All main services. Central heating. Two cottages. Garage, etc. Charming terraced gardens with hard tennis court. Well-stocked, kitchen gardens, meadows, and woodland, in all about 14½ ACRES

FOR SALE FREEHOLD WITH POSSESSION

Inspected and confidently recommended by the joint Sole Agents: Messrs. IBBETT, MOSELY, CARD & Co., Station Road East, Oxted, Surrey, and GEORGE TROLLOPE AND SONS, 25, Mount Street, London, W.1. (D.1157)

DORSET. CENTRE OF BLACKMORE VALE

3½ miles station. London under 3 hours. Secluded in lovely country

BEAUTIFUL QUEEN ANNE HOUSE IN FIRST-RATE ORDER WITH ALL MODERN CONVENIENCES

Built of local stone with stone roof and all buildings in keeping. Twelve bed., 5 bath., 4 rec. rooms. Main water and electric light. Central heating. Fitted basins. Modern drainage. Garages, 4 cottages (2 with possession).

FINE RANGE OF 14 LOOSE BOXES AND MODEL FARMERY

Simply laid out grounds, well-watered pasture, woodland.

80 ACRES. VACANT POSSESSION except of farmery, pasture land and two cottages.

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(Euston 7000)

MAPLE & Co., LTD.

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HERTS. NEAR WATFORD

One mile from a station.

FOR SALE

A property most suitable for a Nursing Home or high-class School, etc. In good condition. The Residence has large hall, drawing, dining and morning rooms, winter garden 70 x 50 ft., housekeeper's room, maids' sitting room, 15 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, 9 fitted basins in one room. Two good cottages with bathrooms. Dormitory with 6 cubicles. Badminton court or dance room, and other useful buildings. Garage for 7 cars.

Exceedingly attractive gardens and rough meadow land of about 6½ ACRES. Tennis lawn, 2 fine kitchen gardens.

ELECTRIC LIGHT. RADIATORS. GAS FIRES.

PRICE £9 750

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ON THE SUSSEX AND HAMPSHIRE BORDERS

High up with glorious view.

FOR SALE

A beautiful Country House on 2 floors only and with modern comforts including radiators in nearly every room and oak floors. Accommodation includes: Entrance loggia, hall with fine staircase, very fine drawing room, dining room, morning room, sun parlour, 8 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, etc.

TWO COTTAGES. GARAGE FOR 3 CARS.

Lovely old gardens, orchard and woodland of about 7 ACRES, lawns, lily ponds, rose gardens, fine trees including Japanese maple.

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London 30 miles.



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Also at CIRENCESTER, NORTHAMPTON, LEEDS, YEOVIL, CHICHESTER, CHESTER, NEWMARKET AND DUBLIN

MODERN MANOR HOUSE-STYLE RESIDENCE

Three reception rooms, 9 principal, 6 secondary bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. Main c.l. and water. Central heating.

COTTAGE.

FARM BUILDINGS.

About 86 ACRES

PRICE £15,000

ISLE OF WIGHT

In a quiet and convenient situation overlooking the Solent.

ATTRACTIVE AND PARTICULARLY WELL-APPOINTED GEORGIAN RESIDENCE

Spacious entrance hall, cloakroom, 3 reception rooms, 8 bed and dressing rooms (fitted basins), 3 bathrooms. Ample domestic offices. Partial central heating. All main services. Garage and stabling with flat over. Well-maintained gardens.

In all just over 1 ACRE
PRICE £8,500

Details of the Owner's Agents: JACKSON-STOPS & STAFF, 37, South Street, Chichester (Tel. 3443).



TRESIDDER & CO., 77, South Audley St., W.1

Grosvenor 2861. Telegrams: "Cornishmen, London."

6 MILES OXFORD, between Watlington and Oxford, lovely rural part. **VERY ATTRACTIVE RESIDENCE** in good order. Hall, 4 good reception (one 40 ft. x 18 ft.), 2 bathrooms, 7-11 bedrooms (5 h. and c.). Central heating. Electric light. Garages and outbuildings. Nicely laid-out gardens, iris garden, lawns, hard tennis court, kitchen garden and paddocks. **£10,000 FREEHOLD**.—Inspected and recommended: TRESIDDER & Co., 77, South Audley Street, W.1. (22,669)

WEST GLOUCESTERSHIRE. First-class Country House Hotel (club licence) 800 ft. up, magnificent views. Five reception, 2 bath., 15 bed. (6 h. and c.). Part central heating, electric light, Aga cooker, telephone. Garage, outhouses. Charming grounds, productive fruit and vegetable gardens, and meadow. **12 ACRES. £15,000 FREEHOLD FOR QUICK SALE, LOCK, STOCK AND BARREL**.—TRESIDDER AND Co., 77, South Audley Street, W.1. (22,460)

£9,500 13 ACRES
GLOS-HEREFORD borders, 2½ miles Ross-on-Wye. **ATTRACTIVE OLD STONE-BUILT RESIDENCE** in good order. Hall, 3 reception, 2 bath, 7-9 bedrooms. Main electricity. Telephone. **GARAGES, STABLING, CHILDREN'S PLAYROOM, COTTAGE**. Old-world flower garden, tennis lawn, walled kitchen garden, 2 greenhouses, orchard and meadow.—TRESIDDER & Co., 77, South Audley Street, W.1. (22,902)

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Particulars of Estates for Sale in the counties of

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can be supplied on application.

The List includes a **MOST ATTRACTIVE RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY** in the County of Lanark of about **300 ACRES**.

SALMON FISHING TO LET

Salmon fishings are available for letting in the following rivers:

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LONDON, W.1

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Grosvenor 3131 (3 lines)
Established 1875

SUSSEX—KENT BORDERS

London 47 miles. On high ground.

A DIGNIFIED YEOMAN'S HOUSE



IN FIRST-CLASS
ORDER THROUGHOUT

Seven bedrooms, dressing
room, 3 reception rooms,
3 bathrooms.

Central heating.

Electricity. Two cottages

Large lake.

82 ACRES. FOR SALE FREEHOLD.

Vacant Possession on Completion.

Owner's Sole London Agents: CURTIS & HENSON, 5, Mount Street, London, W.1.

SUSSEX—KENT BORDERS

6 miles Rye. London 56 miles. Secluded in lovely country.

A DELIGHTFUL SMALL PERIOD HOUSE

OF MELLOW-BRICK
WITH OLD TILED
ROOF

Five bedrooms, 3 bath-
rooms, 3 reception rooms.
Compact modern offices.
Staff sitting room. Garage.
Stables and farm buildings.
Two brick-built modern
bungalows. Main electri-
city. Modern drainage.
Central heating.



20 ACRES. Possession on Completion.

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IPSWICH
Ipswich 4334

WOODCOCKS

30, ST. GEORGE STREET,
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Mayfair 5411

Insold Auction Bargain, convenient daily reach London.

ERTS. One mile favourite village and station.
Watford 5. Rural setting. **MODERNISED
RESIDENCE OF CHARACTER.** Three reception,
6 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, maids' sitting rooms,
practically on two floors; main services. Charming
gardens and paddock. **3 ACRES.** Stable, garage, etc.

POSSESSION. FREEHOLD £7,000.

Sole Agents: WOODCOCKS, London Office.

AST SUFFOLK. "Hill House," Halesworth. A
**WELL-BUILT GEORGIAN-STYLE COUNTRY
RESIDENCE** in rural situation, outskirts of this market
town, on main line. Three good reception, 6 bedrooms,
dressing room, bath (h. and c.), main electricity, 2 garages
(arming well-timbered grounds, arable field, nearly
6 ACRES in all. Executors offer at **£4,500 FREEHOLD,**
WITH POSSESSION.

WOODCOCK & SON, Ipswich Office.

With frontage to River Bure.

NORFOLK BROADS (Norwich 7 miles). Charming
RIVERSIDE RESIDENCE. Three reception, 6
bedrooms (basins), 2 bathrooms, main electricity, central
heating throughout, 2 garages. Attractive grounds,
woodland glade, private creek, 2 boat-houses, about
4 ACRES. FREEHOLD £6,750. POSSESSION.

WOODCOCK & SON, Ipswich Office.

Looe Harbour 6 miles, Plymouth 16.



THIS T.T. DAIRY FARM, 195 ACRES, with 19 acres
woodlands, and 3½ acres excellent orchard. **18TH-
CENTURY STONE HOUSE,** 3 sitting, 8 bedrooms,
bath, etc., Aga, mains electricity, piped water from 2 rams.
Fine set of buildings with milking parlour, foreman's house
and 2 cottages. **£11,250 FREEHOLD. POSSESSION.**

WOODCOCKS, London Office.

Enjoying glorious vista views to the South Downs.

HAYWARDS HEATH under 2 miles. Rural setting.
**SMALL GEORGIAN STYLE MODERN COUN-
TRY HOUSE,** 2 reception, 6 bedrooms (5 h. and c.), 2
bathrooms, maids' sitting room; good repair, main electri-
city and water. Lovely garden, orchard, and paddock
6 ACRES. Excellent cottage. Garage 2-3 cars. Two
loose boxes. **POSSESSION. FREEHOLD £12,000.**
Inspected and strongly recommended by WOODCOCKS,
London Office.

Looking on to 7 miles of sands and across the Channel to the
Isle of Wight.

WEST SUSSEX, 4 miles Itchenor, Chichester 7.
DELIGHTFUL MODERN RESIDENCE. Three
reception, 6 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, central heating, main
electricity and water. Adjoins beach. Built-in garage.
Garden. Ready to occupy. **FREEHOLD £8,250.**

Inspected and recommended, WOODCOCKS, London Office.

In the English Switzerland, 800 ft. up.

SURREY (Hindhead 2 miles). **CHOICE RESI-
DENTIAL HOLDING, DELIGHTFUL MODERN
HOUSE.** Three reception, 5 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms,
maids' sitting room, main services. Garden and pasture
17 ACRES. Garage, valuable buildings, suitable poultry,
etc. **POSSESSION. FREEHOLD £9,000.**
Inspected and recommended, WOODCOCKS, London Office.

FAREBROTHER, ELLIS & CO.

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Established 1799
AUCTIONEERS. CHARTERED SURVEYORS. LAND AGENTS.
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Telegrams:
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SURREY

SUTTON

Half an hour from City or West End by Southern Railway.

TWO FREEHOLD HOUSES IN COURSE OF ERECTION

TWO RECEPTION ROOMS, 4 BEDROOMS, ETC.

PARQUET FLOORS. GARAGE.

POSSESSION ABOUT MAY, 1947.

PRICES £4,500 and £3,800 respectively.

(Subject to Contract.)

WOKING

Mile from station. Overlooking common.

A MODERN FREEHOLD HOUSE

FIVE BEDROOMS (fitted basins), BATHROOM, 3 RECEPTION ROOMS.

COMPANIES' ELECTRIC LIGHT, GAS AND WATER.

TWO GARAGES.

Well-kept garden, about ½ ACRE.

PRICE £5,900 (subject to contract).

VACANT POSSESSION

For further particulars apply: Messrs. FAREBROTHER, ELLIS & CO., 29 Fleet Street, E.C.4. CEN. 9344.

STOWMARKET
CAMBRIDGE

R. C. KNIGHT & SONS

LAND AGENTS

LONDON
NORWICH

CHICKERING HALL NORFOLK—SUFFOLK BORDERS A VERY LOVELY MANOR HOUSE

AND VALUABLE AGRICULTURAL ESTATE.

Completely modernised Residence, 6 bedrooms (2 with
basins h. and c.), 2 bathrooms, 3 reception rooms. Second-
ary residence. Bailiff's house. Three sets of farm
buildings, 7 cottages.

In all about 475 ACRES

almost all in hand and for Sale with Vacant Possession.
Further details from the Agents: Market Place, Stowmarket
(Tel.: 384/5).

PEYTON HALL IN LOVELY SOUTH SUFFOLK COUNTRY A PERFECT TUDOR MANOR HOUSE and DAIRY FARM

Eight bedrooms (3 with basins h. and c.), 2 bathrooms,
lounge hall and 3 reception rooms, main electricity, ample
water. Farm buildings including modern cowhouse for 29.
Seven cottages. Bungalow.

291 ACRES

POSSESSION BY ARRANGEMENT.

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MOAT FARM, THEBERTON, E. SUFFOLK SMALL RESIDENTIAL FARM

Modernised old house of character. Five bed and dressing
rooms, bathroom, 2 reception rooms, cloakroom, farm
buildings. **42 ACRES. VACANT POSSESSION.**
Further details from the Agents: Market Place, Stowmarket
(Tel.: 384/5).

BACTON GRANGE, NORFOLK

Close to a favourite part of the coast.

OLD 15TH-CENTURY HOUSE

Six bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 3 reception rooms, completely
modernised. Lovely gardens and meadowland. Two
cottages. **14 ACRES. VACANT POSSESSION.**
Further details from the Agents: 2, Upper King Street,
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GROSVENOR SQ., LONDON, W.1

WILSON & CO.

Grosvenor
1441

IN A PICKED POSITION ON THE BUCKS CHILTERN

In a lovely setting, 400 ft. up.



AN ULTRA-MODERN HOUSE

with every modern comfort and convenience, perfectly secluded in its own estate of

90 ACRES

Seven bed, 2 dressing rooms, 4 luxury bathrooms, 3 reception.

Garage. Cottage.

Delightful gardens, pasture and lovely woodlands.

For sale privately or by Auction later.

Sole Agents: WILSON & Co., 23, Mount Street, W.1.

SUSSEX. OVERLOOKING THE SOUTH DOWNS

Convenient to Haywards Heath and Lewes.

Superbly appointed Country House, fine oak paneling, parquet floors, etc.

Occupying one of the finest positions in Sussex

Eleven bed and dressing rooms, 4 bathrooms, 4 reception rooms.

Stabling. Garage. Two cottages.

For sale with 141 ACRES



Sole Agents: WILSON & Co., 23, Mount Street, W.1.

WEST SUSSEX

Easy reach Horsham. 1 hour London.



Delightful small Estate with charming house 300 ft. up. With lovely views. Twelve beds, 4 baths, 4 reception. Electric light. Central heating. Home farm, 3 cottages. Well-timbered gardens, park land and pasture. All in hand.

VACANT POSSESSION.

70 ACRES. £16,000

Agents: WILSON & Co., 23, Mount Street, W.1.

1 MILE SUSSEX COAST



In a really lovely situation with glorious views of the Downs and a long stretch of coast line. Charming modern house. Oak floors, basins in all bedrooms, main services. Six beds, 2 baths, 4 reception. Delightful garden.

FOR SALE WITH 2 ACRES

or any area up to 100 acres if required.

Agents: WILSON & Co., 23, Mount Street, W.1.

EARLY GEORGIAN HOUSE IN HANTS

Lovely unspoiled country, 7 miles Basingstoke.



A delightful red brick Period House with original features. Completely modernised and in first-rate order. Eight beds, 3 baths, 3 reception. Electric light, central heating. Lovely old-world gardens.

TO BE LET FURNISHED FOR TWO YEARS

Sole Agents: WILSON & Co., 23 Mount Street, W.1.

DREWEATT, WATSON & BARTON

Est. 1759

NEWBURY

Tel.: Newbury 1

WEST BERKSHIRE

One of the better-known smaller Estates.



Price and full details from Owner's Agents: Messrs. DREWEATT, WATSON & BARTON, Newbury.

ARLINGTON MANOR near NEWBURY

A substantially built spacious Residence on two floors, standing in a park.

27 bedrooms, 6 bathrooms, 5 reception rooms.

GOOD GARAGE AND STABLE ACCOMMODATION AND OUT-BUILDINGS. FIVE COTTAGES.

156 ACRES

Including some valuable woodland. VERY SUITABLE FOR SCHOOL OR PUBLIC PURPOSES.

In an entirely unspoilt Berkshire village.

WESTBROOK HOUSE BOXFORD, near NEWBURY

AN OLD-FASHIONED VILLAGE HOUSE

Six bedrooms (4 h. and c.), 2 attics, 2 bathrooms, 3 reception rooms, offices, central heating throughout, main electricity.

GARAGE AND STABLE ACCOMMODATION.

GROUND OF ABOUT 2½ ACRES

With a further 6½ Acres available if required.

EXECUTORS SALE PRICE £5,500

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BERNARD THORPE & PARTNERS Tels.:
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Oxt. 975

REIGATE

An attractive, modernised, 16th-Century Residence in pleasant surroundings adjoining the Green Belt.

Ten bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, lounge hall, 2 reception rooms, billiards room, cloakroom, good domestic offices, central heating.

Gardens and grounds of 3½ ACRES with vinery and peach house.

FREEHOLD £8,000, WITH VACANT POSSESSION

Particulars from BERNARD THORPE & PARTNERS, as above.

ON THE SURREY-KENT BORDER

Easy daily reach of London.

AN ATTRACTIVE FARMHOUSE with 4 bedrooms, bathroom, good buildings, and 50 ACRES of fertile land.

PRICE £8,000 FREEHOLD

Live and dead stock could be purchased if required.

Particulars from BERNARD THORPE & PARTNERS, as above.

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F.V.A.

SANDERS'
MARKET PLACE, SIDMOUTH. Tel.: Sidmouth 41

T. S. SANDERS
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CLOSE TO LONDON A PERFECT SMALL HOUSE

Only 20 minutes' drive to West End, but in ideal country surroundings, peaceful, no traffic noises.

The Residence, a very fine example of modern design and planning, partly half-timbered, stands in grounds of 2 acres and adjoining a park.

Three entertaining rooms, very attractive hall with oak staircase, 4 principal bed and dressing rooms, 2 secondary bedrooms (separate staircase), 2 bathrooms, large boxroom.

Offices include maids' sitting room. Double garage. With vacant possession.

FREEHOLD £15,000

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A few attractive properties now available for long or short lettings.

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JOHN D. WOOD & CO.

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(10 lines)

HORSHAM (3 MILES), SUSSEX

ONE OF THE MOST ATTRACTIVE RESIDENTIAL AND SPORTING ESTATES IN SUSSEX

SEDGWICK PARK

Occupying a lovely situation with magnificent views over the Sussex Weald to the South Downs.

IMPORTANT STONE-BUILT RESIDENCE

Beautifully appointed rooms with period panelling.

Completely modernised. Luggage lift.

CENTRAL HEATING.

CO.'S ELECTRICITY.

Lavatory basins in many of the bedrooms.



THE SOUTH FRONT

Galleried hall, 5 reception rooms, 8 principal and 5 servants' bedrooms, 7 modern bathrooms, Nursery suite and attics.

EXCELLENT MODERN OFFICES.



THE TERRACE GARDEN

Unusually beautiful gardens and grounds famous for their lay-out, with choice shrubs and trees merging into wild gardens and woodlands with delightful walks. Wide spreading park and avenue drives with lodges. The well timbered undulating estate provides excellent pheasant shooting with very high birds.



THE SUNK GARDEN

NINE FARMS, SMALLHOLDINGS, ACCOMMODATION LAND AND 17 COTTAGES.

Over 300 Acres of Woodland, in all about

1,525 ACRES

For Sale by Auction as a whole or in lots in the Spring

Auctioneers: KING & CHASEMORE, Horsham (Tel.: No. 111), and JOHN D. WOOD & Co., 23, Berkeley Square, London, W.1.

Solicitors: FITZHUGH, WOOLEY, BAINES & Co., 3, Pavilion Parade, Brighton, 1.

Just in the market.

IN A FAVOURITE PART OF WEST SUSSEX BEAUTIFUL WHITE GEORGIAN HOUSE IN A TIMBERED PARK-LIKE SETTING



Hall, 4 reception rooms, study, 14 bedrooms, 5 bathrooms, main electric light and water, central heating throughout. Model farmery. Garages. Lodge. Cottage.

NEARLY 50 ACRES

FREEHOLD £17,000

WITH POSSESSION OF THE HOUSE, GROUNDS AND LODGE

Inspected and recommended by JOHN D. WOOD & Co., as above. (31,048)

NORFOLK—BETWEEN NORWICH & KING'S LYNN *Fakenham 5 miles.*

A PERFECT EXAMPLE OF A STONE-BUILT TUDOR MANOR HOUSE



Delightfully situated, surrounded by a moat and in excellent order.

8-10 bed., 2 bathrooms, 3 reception, many lovely period features.

Pleasant gardens, kitchen garden and paddock.

GARDENER'S COTTAGE

GARAGES.

IN ALL ABOUT 9 ACRES

PRICE FREEHOLD £10,000

Inspected and recommended highly by JOHN D. WOOD & Co., as above. (83,304)

AN UNUSUALLY ATTRACTIVE SPORTING ESTATE IN EAST DEVON

With 2 miles of trout fishing in the Otter.

THE CHARMING GEORGIAN HOUSE

Contains hall, dining room, drawing room, smoking room, morning room, billiards room, 15 bed and dressing rooms, 4 bathrooms, kitchen with Aga cooker, main electricity, own water, septic tank drains. Garages, stabling, squash court, lodge, gardens, 3 cottages, parkland.



Freehold with possession of the fishing and 29 acres, £15,000, or including the Home Farm with Model Dairy Buildings and about 180 acres, price £22,500.

Strongly recommended by the Agents: JOHN D. WOOD & Co., as above. (70,230)

IDEAL YACHTING CENTRE, SUSSEX

Surrounded by Chichester Harbour and Furzefield Creek.

Bosham 2½ miles. Havant 9 miles. Electric express service.

BEAUTIFULLY APPOINTED HOUSE

with private slipway and jetty.

Four reception, 7 bed., 4 bath.

ESSE COOKER, MAIN ELECTRICITY AND WATER. RADIATORS.

Garage for 3. Cottage with 3 bed., bath, 2 sitting.

Walled garden and parkland.

IN ALL 48 ACRES



FOR SALE WITH VACANT POSSESSION

Further particulars from JOHN D. WOOD & Co., as above. (32,403)

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 WILLIAM FOX, F.S.I., F.A.I.
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Crown Lease for disposal.

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In one of the most beautiful parts of the Forest adjacent to this old-world village. 11 miles Southampton, 14 miles Lymington.

The Residence stands high, affording magnificent forest views.

Nine principal bedrooms, 5 secondary bedrooms, bathroom, sitting room, sun lounge, large drawing room, spacious lounge, dining room, billiards room, housekeeper's room, servants' sitting room. Garden room. Good cellarage with bathroom, kitchen and offices. Electric lighting plant. Central heating.



PRICE £2,500 FOR REMAINDER OF LEASE OF ABOUT 26 YEARS (OR NEAR OFFER)

For particulars apply: Fox & Sons, Land Agents, Bournemouth.

Telephone. Garage for 3 cars. Stabling. Second garage.

Chauffeur's cottage. Gardener's house. Entrance lodge let at 10/- per week. Peach house. Vinery. Greenhouse.

The gardens and grounds include rose garden with pond, trimmed yew hedges, flower borders, productive kitchen garden, orchard, farmery with cowhouses, stable, wagon house.

The whole extends to an area of about 29 ACRES

MILFORD-ON-SEA, HANTS

Occupying a magnificent position on the cliffs facing the English Channel, Needles and the Isle of Wight.

The comfortable and attractive Freehold Residence "HECKFIELD"

Facing mainly south and commanding extensive uninterrupted sea views. Eight principal and secondary bed and dressing rooms, bathroom, 3 reception rooms, cloakroom, maids' sitting room, entrance hall, excellent domestic offices. All main services. Telephone. Garage and out-buildings. Greenhouse.

Delightful gardens in excellent condition, including herbaceous borders, rose garden, lily pond, rockery, productive kitchen and fruit gardens, the whole extending to an area of over 1 ACRE

**WITH VACANT POSSESSION ON COMPLETION
 PRICE £8,000 FREEHOLD**

For particulars apply: Messrs. JACKMAN & MASTERS, The Estate Office, Milford-on-Sea, Hants, and Messrs. Fox and Sons, 44-52, Old Christchurch Road, Bournemouth.

IN A SOUTHERN COUNTY

**MODEL PIG FARM OF AN ABSOLUTELY
 UNIQUE CHARACTER**

Superior brick-built tiled-roof piggeries, slaughter house, mixing room with automatic mixer, etc. Excellent 5-roomed Bungalow Residence.

30 ACRES of good arable and pasture land.

The piggeries have a superficial floor area of about 30,000 square feet and are capable of carrying 1,500 head of stock.

Price for Freehold Property, all dead stock and loose effects (no live stock included), **£13,000**

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HYTHE, HAMPSHIRE

With views of shipping on Southampton Water, adjacent to the beautiful New Forest.

**The excellent Freehold Residence
 "PROSPECT COTTAGE"**

Prospect Place, Hythe, near Southampton

Well situated in a convenient position in the village and within a minute of buses and the Hythe-Southampton Ferry. Five bedrooms, box room, 3 bathrooms, 2 reception rooms, sun lounge and offices. Greenhouse with potting shed adjoining. Small but pleasant garden with concrete paving. All main services and telephone.

VACANT POSSESSION

To be Sold by Auction (unless previously sold by private treaty) at the Royal Hotel, Southampton, on Tuesday, 14th January, 1947.

Solicitors: Messrs. BASSETT, STANTON & Co., 6, Portland Terrace, Southampton.

Auctioneers: Messrs. Fox & Sons, 2-3, Gibbs Road, Southampton. Tel. 3941.

SOUTH HAMPSHIRE COAST

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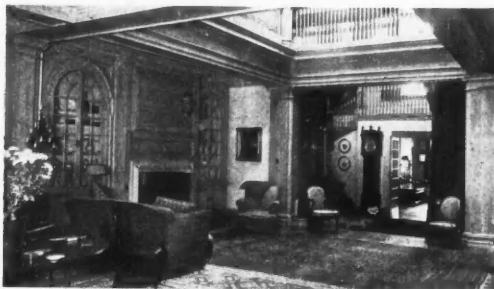
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AND BEACHY HEAD

c.1

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Three reception, nursery, 5 bedrooms. All main services. Central heating.

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ground

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c.2

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ALL MAIN SERVICES.

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ABOUT 5 ACRES

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POSSESSION MARCH 25, 1947

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14 miles north-east of Salisbury, 11 miles Devizes.

COTTAGE RESIDENCE

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The gardens and grounds extend in all to about 41 ACRES (36 LET OFF).

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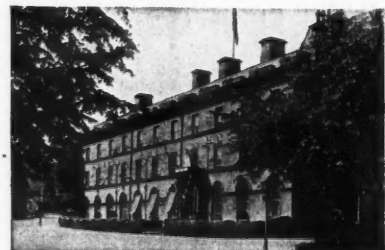
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COUNTRY LIFE

Vol. C. No. 2605

DECEMBER 20, 1946



Harlip

MISS PATRICIA CHAPMAN

Miss Patricia E. Chapman, who served in the W.R.N.S. during the war, is the younger daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Fitzroy K. Chapman, of Ashdown Place, Forest Row, Sussex, and a niece of Lady Wyndham. On her mother's side she can trace her descent directly to Charles II

COUNTRY LIFE

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STATE AND FARMER

BEFORE the Government's Agricultural Bill appeared Lord Huntingdon, who is joint Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Agriculture, gave Dorset farmers a foretaste of the land control provisions of the Bill. Plenty of time should be allowed for consideration of these proposals, which are far-reaching in peace-time policy, before the country and Parliament are asked to make a final decision.

Few will quarrel with the Government's intention to acquire land which could not be properly developed by the individual. Many thousands of pounds of the taxpayer's money have already been invested in the reclamation of fenland which was brought into production during the war years. Such enterprises need ample financial backing over a period of years, and this it may be a proper function of the Government to provide. It is much more questionable whether Government departments will ever prove themselves to be the most competent farmers of reclaimed land or restorers of farms that have fallen out of condition. Farming skill is mainly an individual matter, and day-to-day management from an office desk or by committee minutes has often proved impracticable and excessively costly. We do not need to learn this lesson again.

Nor will there be serious differences over the Government's intention to put under supervision farmers or landowners who are either unwilling or unable to manage their land properly, and serve them with directions if they fail to carry out effectively the advice given to them. How smoothly this works in practice will depend on the discretion allowed to the county committees. The trend nowadays is all towards Whitehall dictation. Local bodies are kept in being to preserve the democratic front, but they are being used more and more merely to endorse Whitehall decisions. County committees are left with little effective purpose in the National Agricultural Advisory Service or the Women's Land Army to-day. Is the same fate to overtake the county war agricultural executive committees, whose team work has served the country so well?

Underlying the willingness and ability of farmers and landowners to meet their obligations and maintain high standards will be the hard fact of agriculture's economic position. The Chancellor of the Exchequer has told the Guild of Agricultural Journalists that "nothing can be more important than that agriculture should be efficient and that it should be cherished and nourished by the country as a whole." The Chancellor spoke of the Treasury assistance given to agriculture by way of grants for land

drainage and water supplies, lime, hill farming subsidies and agricultural research. These payments pale into insignificance when compared with the food subsidies now running at nearly £400,000,000 a year. This Mr. Dalton regards as a payment to keep the consumers and farmers sweet. It is a precarious basis for the highly productive and wholly efficient agriculture that we need in this country.

VILLAGE PLANNING

THE Central Landowners' Association may be congratulated on their village planning competition, an admirable attempt to get the right people interested in the business of re-creating the village as the centre of modern rural life without sacrificing either the qualities of picturesqueness derived from a long process of keeping company with its landscape or of any which it may possess as a deliberate work of art. The competition is designed to direct fresh ideas and sound practice in a realistic way to actual problems, and the creative fancy of the

THE DARK OF THE MOON

THE waning moon, last Christmas Eve,
Broke through the drifting, cloudy wrack,
And silvered cottage, byre and stack
Along the upland way that led
To the lighted church, whose plangent bell
Called squire and shepherd, child and sage
To greet the midnight miracle.

When the bell calls, this Christmas Eve,
No moon will light the churchbound throng
Hurrying the upland way along.
But let the sky be clear of cloud,
A vault of unimagined height,
Shepherd and sage will see the star
Burn brighter in the moonless night.

FREDA C. BOND.

competitors will be held in check by their need to produce plans, not for an imaginary village to be built upon a virgin site, but for typical English villages, already existing, which will before long have to be extended to meet the requirements of the times. One knows how many and varied are the types of village in this country, some of them owing their beauty and fitness for their purpose to the planned designs of definite periods, some of them to a process of long and ultimately harmonious accretion. If they are to be treated sympathetically, such villages as Godstone, Shipton-under-Wychwood, Conover and Helmsley—which are those chosen—will each need a different approach. And in each case the competitor will be wholesomely tied to local earth by the requirement that when he has added his fifty or hundred and fifty houses the old and the new shall make a single social and economical entity. Just as sound is the requirement that existing planning problems should be solved and defects removed in the course of new construction.

PLOUGHED-UP FOOTPATHS

AUTUMN ploughing this year makes more important than ever the duty of local authorities to protect the public interest by insisting that ploughed-up paths are restored without delay. The Defence Regulation under which their elimination was authorised during war-time was revoked last year, and there is not only no longer any valid excuse for continuing the practice, but it is now entirely illegal. Where paths over which rights of way exist have been ploughed up, it is the duty of the occupier of the land to restore them. If he does not it is the duty of the local authority to compel him to do so. Unfortunately there are at a time like this a good many opportunities for letting things slide, on the pretext that what people have been prepared to tolerate for seven years they may be expected to put up with for ever. In many cases, of course, it is obviously to a farmer's advantage to restore paths that are a convenience to himself and his men as well as to others. But there are many paths across

farms which, though they may be of value to his neighbours and a means of pleasant recreation to the public, the farmer has always regarded as a nuisance, and their public use as a sort of licensed trespass. Here lurks the danger, unless the local authority is prepared to act. In too many cases, it is to be feared, paths of this sort have been ploughed up without any formal authorisation under the now expired Regulation, and, with a vague excuse of war-time urgency, the local authority has taken no action. This may make it difficult for them to move now after tacitly consenting for years to a completely illegal practice. But the practice remains illegal, and farmers who would be ready enough to invoke the law in case of an alleged trespass should be made to conform to it. Incidentally, as the *Journal of the Commons and Footpaths Preservation Society* points out, ploughing right up to the boundary of a field so as to extinguish footpaths which skirt its edge was never authorised by the Defence Regulations and has always been illegal.

FOR TEA-TIME

CHINA tea being obtainable once again, the owner of one London establishment has revealed how he contrived throughout the war to supply those who sipped from his cups. His China tea was, he said, very weak Indian tea with the addition of some dried flower petals; in November he used chrysanthemums. The disclosure has doubtless brought many a malicious smile to the lips of those who do not like China tea and feel themselves despised for preferring Indian and Ceylon; some may even have recalled Sir Osbert Sitwell's description of the chrysanthemum as "a flower which is to all other blossoms as a moth to a butterfly, and seems to thrive on winter as carrion on offal." A century or so ago, however, the resourcefulness of the purveyor of China tea would have been deemed admirable. It has been said that Lord Pembroke, grandfather of Lord Palmerston, used to add an assurance when he offered a choice of wines to his guests: "I can answer for my port, for I made it myself." His recipe was: "Of genuine port wine, eight gallons; of cider 40 gallons; brandy to fill the hoghead; elder tops 'to give roughness,' and cochineal to adjust the colour." Nor is there any lack of comparable recipes in the old books. But occasionally there were officious objections to these sophistications, at least so far as tea was concerned. In the year 1835, for example, Excise officers found that one factory had in the previous 12 months dried over 4,000,000 pounds of blackthorn leaves, mixed them with tea and sold them. This meant loss of revenue, so the establishment was closed and the stock-in-hand burnt. It is to be hoped that there will be no trouble about the chrysanthemum leaves.

ORATORY PER YARD

EVEN Mayors are human and are occasionally at a loss for something to say. Perhaps the most famous of all Mayors, Mr. Nupkins of Ipswich, had to be prompted by Mr. Jinks. Some enterprising persons are proposing to take advantage of this amiable weakness, which is not always so marked as the audience might wish. They have sent a prospectus to the Mayor of Keighley offering him for three guineas a correspondence course which "will convert an Mayor into a fluent speaker." When, moreover, he has attained this first essential, they will provide him with jokes to season his speech at the rate of 5s. for a new one, and 1s. 3d. each for those described as "second hand." These last are probably as old as that which came at the end of Dan Leno's list of eggs: "the egg." To be sure 1s. 3d. is not much, and yet oratory is apparently even cheaper in Lancashire than in Yorkshire, for a Councillor of Preston has been offered speeches suited to all possible occasions for a uniform rate of half-a-crown. For that ridiculously small sum not a great deal is presumably to be expected, but that is not necessarily a disadvantage. If most of us when we get on our legs determined to give our listeners no more than half-a-crown's worth we should probably be far less tiresome than we are.



Fred H. Done

A WINTER'S EVENING: BEESTON CASTLE, CHESHIRE

A COUNTRYMAN'S NOTES

By

Major C. S. JARVIS

THERE is one type of dog that no man can afford to own, the sheep-chaser, and as something like nine pups out of ten are sheep-chasers from instinct the most drastic correction must be administered on the first fall from grace, since if the vice becomes a habit not only do the evil results lead to an early and untimely death, but the good name of the whole canine world is likely to suffer.

I was present the other day when a boisterous nine-month-old dog was being exercised, and tethered in one corner of the common were three white nanny-goats, who were grazing on the short grass, and occasionally casting longing eyes at the flowers in the neighbouring gardens. Immediately the pup saw them he dashed forward deaf to all whistles and calls.

"What wonderful luck!" he said to himself. "Here are three of those idiotic easily terrified creatures, which run away from dogs so fast that one gets a glorious view of fat swaying rumps all over the field until one gets tired of the sport. Watch me start 'em up!"

* * *

AS the pup bounded up to the nearest goat she raised her head and looked at him calmly with a cold, supercilious wall-eyed stare. The look was so frigid and so very unsheep-like that the pup checked himself in his stride, wondering if he had made a mistake, but his bound had taken him well within the cropped circle of grass that marked the extent of one of the tethered goat's chain. Next moment he received a buffet in the ribs that knocked all the wind and sheep-chasing ideas out of him. The force of the blow sent him flying into the

cropped circle of the second goat, who was standing in readiness and who took him on the half-volley, passing him on to the third goat so rapidly that this animal was able only to get in a short mashie stroke with one horn. This, however, seemed to be most effective, judging by the vocal response it evoked and the speed attained by the pup on his return to his master.

* * *

AN expression frequently used in connection with duck shooting to imply that the birds were quite plentiful is "the water was black with duck." It is of course, a gross exaggeration when it is employed to describe a hundred-odd birds on about an acre of water. If one works out the approximate square measurement of a mallard compared with that of an acre, it will be found that it requires many thousands of birds to cover the water area sufficiently for the statement to be true. However, one does not wish to argue such things with mathematical exactitude, and in any case a hundred-odd birds on any acre of water in this country is a sufficiently rare occurrence to justify some exaggeration.

Such a sight may, however, often be seen in Egypt, and I recall that at the end of the 1914-18 war, when shooting on Lake Mariut had been prohibited for four years, one could see in the centre of this great stretch of water on every day during the winter migration a large black patch of duck covering, not one, but some

four or five acres. These 1919 Mariut assemblies constituted the greatest gatherings of duck I have ever seen on any water, but they were too far away for one to make any sort of estimate of their numbers and, moreover, were present in only one part of the lake (the most inaccessible) and did not cover the whole area.

* * *

A YEAR later, in the most isolated of all the Libyan oases, Dakhla, I came across a small lake situated off the beaten track (if there was such a thing as a beaten track in that distant oasis at that time) where the expression "black with duck" was as near the truth as I have ever seen it. The pool was approximately only an acre in size, with a grove of date palms growing to the water's edge on one side and a belt of reeds separating it from some barley plots on the other; and the whole surface of the water was covered with duck from shore to shore. In fact, as there were a great number walking about on the banks it was almost a case of "standing room only." Another remarkable feature of this extraordinary gathering together of duck on one small stretch of water was that they were composed of no fewer than eleven different varieties: mallard, pintail, wigeon, pochard, teal, garganey teal, shoveller, gadwall, tufted, ferruginous and marbled, the last-named being an indigenous, and not migratory, species.

Only a few white men had penetrated to Dakhla in those far-off days, and I imagine that the pool, being hidden away in a bay of the high cliffs that form the escarpment to the north, had never been visited previously by anyone carrying a gun, and that, lying on the winter

migrants' route, with the attractions of sweet water and corn feed, it was a recognised halting place and sanctuary of the weary hosts of birds that cross the Libyan desert annually. They certainly showed no fear of human beings, and when I went down through the date palms to the edge of the water with my gun the nearest pack, some thirty to forty wigeon, did not rise as I expected, but swam in a leisurely manner away from me. When I clapped my hands only a few birds fluttered up from the surface of the lake, to alight again immediately, and it was not until my Sudanese driver had fired a shot from his rifle that the whole mass of duck were put on the wing. Then, sorting themselves out into their various flights, they circled round the pool again and again within easy shot, enabling me to identify the different varieties as they passed.

IT was a cold and cheerless December afternoon, the clouds were very low, and there was a steady drizzle coming down after four days of gales and torrents of rain. The fallen

leaves beneath the trees were dank and discoloured, the bracken had taken on the dull purple tinge that comes of excessive moisture, and in every way it was the wettest, chilliest and most depressing day that this season has produced.

Suddenly the bare branches of the tall birch tree at the far end of the lawn were alive with the flicker of small wings; our nomad flock of long-tailed tits, possibly some thirty to forty strong, had arrived in their usual high spirits on their fortnightly visit of inspection. One of them, on his way down the birch trunk in search of insects, noticed to his intense delight that the bird bath was full to the brim and flowing over. It is not always in that condition, for human beings are sometimes forgetful, and also we have a robin who, like some of the younger members of my Service Club who use the bathroom before I do, does not consider he has had a proper bath unless he has thrown nine-tenths of the water over the edge. The long-tailed tit thought the opportunity was too

good to be missed, and in any case it was such a delightful day for a bathe; so without a moment's hesitation he plunged into the icy water and with his wings sent a cloud of spray over his back. I think he must have called out to the rest of the tribe that hackneyed and grossly untrue remark one hears all day in the summer on almost every bathing beach in England's chilly land: "Come in—it's as warm as toast!" for in a moment there were twelve or more birds jammed together in the bath spraying the water over themselves, with a long queue, or rather circle, of others round the bath waiting to plunge in directly a gap occurred among the bathers. Never in the hottest day of midsummer have I seen so many birds bathing at one moment, nor such intense delight displayed. There was no doubt about it, it was just the day for a nice cold bath, and I can affirm that when they left the place not one bird was suffering from heat exhaustion, for there was not a dry feather on any member of the flock.

THE VALLEY TIME FORGOT

By M. LISLE

AMONG the best-known of North-Country sayings is the Yorkshireman's complacent "Wheer there's muck there's brass." Not "brass" alone, however, for side by side with, often hidden beneath, the muck may be found, by those who seek it, a wealth of unguessed-at antiquity.

I have in mind the stretch of country between Bradford and Halifax, in the West Riding, commonly condemned out of hand as belonging to that conglomeration of belching chimneys, smoke-blackened roofs and gardenless houses, the Industrial North. Here, however, the tide of industrialism, appalling as it was, did not rise so high as wholly to swamp ancient landmarks, as occurred in other parts of England, and in a circular walk of three miles from Halifax through the Shibden (Sheep-dene) Valley, one covers ground as rich in these as in any other district in Yorkshire.

If we take such a walk, using for our starting-point the Halifax parish church, and climbing the Wiscombe Bank, we are at once upon the old Wakefield road, the Magna Via, mounting, immensely steep, the Beacon Hill, which in far-off days cradled the green-encircled handful of houses and notorious gibbet which was Halifax, and now presides, smoke-seared and barren, above the inferno into which its nursing has developed. At the crest, however, it takes a country course and becomes a field track, steeply downhill beneath arching trees, where the original stones are clearly to be seen, and few towns of the size of Halifax possess a stretch of ancient pack-horse road so little touched by the hand of time.

Up and down this road came the monks of Lewes, in Sussex; the masons from York to build the parish church; the early priests of the church; the Earls of Warren to hunt in Sowerbyshire; cattle drovers on their way to Wakefield; and the pack-horses which carried cloth to London and returned with wool from the south. Along it, too, came Sir Thomas Fairfax, in 1643, with his tired, broken Army after Adwalton Moor. The defeated soldiers must have rejoiced to see Halifax in the hollow.

The high standard of work achieved by Halifax masons in the seventeenth century was recognised beyond the confines of their own parish; the fame of certain of them, notably Martin and John Akroyd and the brothers Bentley, travelled as far afield as Oxford. T. G. Jackson, in his *History of Wadham College*, says that there was a shortage of skilled masons in Oxford at the beginning of the seventeenth century, and Sir Henry Savile, then the warden of Merton and himself a Halifax man, not unnaturally favoured the Halifax craftsmen. The Akroyd and Bentley brothers, therefore, were commissioned to build the Bodley wing of



1.—SCOUT HALL, BUILT IN 1680 BY JOHN MITCHELL, a "riotous liver," who died in a flying-machine accident

2.—(Left) HUNTING FRIEZE OVER THE FRONT DOOR

Duke Humphrey's library, a work which was accomplished between 1602 and 1605.

In 1613 another native of Halifax, Thomas Holt, designed the great quadrangle of the Oxford Public Schools. It was he also who designed the whole structure of Wadham College, built between 1610 and 1613. He is described as "The Carpenter of Wadham College."

These men are commemorated at Oxford. The Register of St. Peter's contains the following entry:—

John Bentley, one of the chief masons that builded the schools and Merton College New Building was buried 8 Dec. 1615.

But our walk necessitates a branching away from the old road, and leaving behind us the beacon, whose pan, a replica of that used in spreading the news of the Armada, was itself used on V-Day, we dip sharply down a grassy hill and lose sight of Halifax as completely as if it had no existence.

Shibden Hall, a timbered house, long the

home of the Lister family, is the oldest residence of its kind in the parish (Fig. 3). Such old houses, timbered because this was once a district of oakwoods, usually face south, and the main entrance is called the "sundoor," from which a passage runs through the house to the back door.

On the left-hand side of this passage is the principal room or "house-body," sometimes open to the roof, and having round it a gallery, which gives access to the bedroom, thus comprising the centre portion of the building and being flanked by wings containing parlour and kitchen, with apartments above.

Since oak cannot last indefinitely, the timbered houses, when decay sets in, are encased by fronts built of stone, and many mediæval houses in these parts are to be found with 17th-century façades.

In the construction of a timbered house, the spaces between the main timbers of the wall would be framed with oak battens, this process being called "studding," which forms the black



3.—AN OLD TIMBERED HOUSE, SHIBDEN HALL

lives in these "maggie" buildings. Between the studding, thin stone slates would be slipped into grooves and daubed over with clay, producing the white effect. The roof would then be covered with slates and moss packed into the joints, and the moss, sucking up the rain-water like a sponge, would expand and fill the joints, so that the roof became watertight.

Crossing the modern Leeds road at Stump Cross, by the site of the old toll-gate, we enter the Shibden Valley proper, noting to the left the 17th-century house at Shibden Fold, which has a 15th-century gable. Two parallel tracks flank the valley—the roads, like the old homesteads in which this part of Yorkshire abound, were always constructed half-way up the hillsides—and by taking the fieldpath through the valley between them, we reach the Shibden Mill Inn (Fig. 7), a whitewashed 16th-century hostelry, still frequented, but in a strangely obscure part.

Facing each other upon opposite slopes, divided by a clear, rapid stream, and a remnant of the once extensive woods that characterised the district, are two 17th-century farm-houses, Hagstocks (Fig. 4) and Dam Head, which derives its name from the ancient mill dam worked there in early days, when trade was expanding and Halifax produced more cloth than any other parish in the West Riding.

The natural advantages of the hills were a bountiful supply of water and the outcrops of coal which occur locally, coal having been mined in Shibden as early as the fourteenth century, and extensively in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, as testified by the ruined water-wheel in the deep clough at Simm Carr, beyond Dam Head, which pumped the water from a neighbouring mine. The ruins of old mills or "combing-shops" are also to be seen, for by the beginning of the nineteenth century almost every clough had its string of new spinning mills turned by moorland becks. In 1800 Michael Greenwood, of Limes House, Shibden, facilitated the process of weaving by his invention of a false reed or sley to guide the yarn into place.

Passing Limes House and following the grassy track through the centre of the valley, we obtain

a view of Upper Shibden Hall, another considerable house of 17th-century construction, in which Thomas Browne, about 1634, wrote his famous *Religio Medici*. After that, we retrace our steps, for otherwise we shall find ourselves upon the main Bradford road at Queensbury, that highest and most hideous of West Riding manufacturing settlements.

Returning, therefore, along the right flank of the valley, we come to Scout Hall (Figs. 1 and 2).

A great square box, architecturally unprepossessing, and containing 52 windows and 365 panes—a window for each week and a pane for each day of the year—Scout Hall crouches gloomily beneath the shadow of a sheer, rock-strewn hill, covered with sparse trees. It was built in 1680 by one John Mitchell, contemporarily described as a riotous liver, "addicted to horse-racing, gambling, card-playing, drinking, carousing, and all manner of ungodliness, not excluding murder, who lost his life in an

attempt at flight from one of the hills behind his home, in a flying-machine of his own invention."

Of the large pretentious houses, legion in this locality, and built for the most part by prosperous wool-merchants of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, none is more intriguing than Scout Hall. Several tenants have left in an apparent belief in the presence of a "ghost"; there is, however, no one to corroborate the belief. Over the main door a plaque depicts a fox-hunt, since it was customary, in addition to the carving of the initials of the householder and his wife, to have, above the entrance, some illustration which should indicate the tastes and activities of the owner.

Only a few of the interior apartments were fitted up contemporaneously. The panelling on the walls, covered with paint, is of oak, and within a projecting carved frame forming part of the decorations over the antique fireplace in a room adjoining the kitchen is a portrait which according to tradition is that of the builder, John Mitchell.

An estimate of the character of this man can be formed by reference to the diary of Oliver Heywood, vicar of the parish at the time, in whose flesh Mitchell was undoubtedly a thorn:—

Mr. John Mitchell of Scowt, the last week of Christmas (as they call it) to season his New House, kept open house, entertained all comers, had fearfull ranting work, drinking healths freely, had forty-three dishes at once, I have scarce heard the like in our parts, his wife was a musitian. Lord put a stop.

The land about here and several older houses belonged to the families of Stancliffe and Mitchell. The builder of Scout ruined himself at cards and died in poverty. "He shortened his days," observes the outraged Oliver Heywood, and since his death Scout Hall has changed hands many times, the last owner being Michael Stocks, of Upper Shibden Hall. The place is to-day in a state of decay and disrepair.

Climbing towards Halifax along the same right-hand track (the old Bradford road), so that the valley stretches panoramically below us, we become aware that there is no object, as far as the eye can reach, which would not have been there 200 years ago; for in this valley of two miles in length and one in breadth, there are no modern mills, but a considerable number (excluding those mentioned here) of practically unaltered 17th- and 18th-century cottages and farmsteads. Halifax duly reveals itself again in its unsightliness as the steep climb to High Sunderland (Figs. 5 and 6) is breasted and the wind



4.—SHIBDEN VALE WITH HAGSTOCKS FARM IN THE FOREGROUND

G. Bernard Wood



5.—HIGH SUNDERLAND, THE HOUSE WHICH IS BELIEVED TO HAVE INSPIRED *WUTHERING HEIGHTS*

blows strong and harsh across these bleak heights.

Emily Brontë, riding often this way, over from Haworth, and working from 1836-7 as a governess at Southowram, is believed to have drawn her inspiration for *Wuthering Heights* from this house, which is another of the timbered variety encased in a stone frontage of 17th-century construction, with a straight embattled cornice and grotesque carvings, looking like a fort on the bare hillside. "Whatever be the claims of other places," states Arthur Comfort, in his *Ancient Halls in and about Halifax*, "High Sunderland certainly gave Emily her description."

A house has been there since the thirteenth century, and from the hillside at the back we can look on the roof and see that the older structure had a gabled front. Over the entrances are the arms of the Sunderland and Rishworth families, while carved in the stone above the south door a Latin inscription informs us that :

This place hates, loves, punishes,
observes, honours,
Negligence, peace, crimes, laws, virtuous persons.

Above the main entrance is the prayer :—

May the Almighty grant that the race of Sunderland may quietly inhabit this seat and maintain the rights of their ancestors, free from strife, until an ant drink up the sea and a tortoise walk round the whole earth.

This wish, however, was not fulfilled, for Captain Langdale Sunderland, who was brother-in-law to the famous Sir Marmaduke Langdale, one of the King's generals in the Civil War, and so commanded a troop of horse in the latter's Army, had to pay a heavy fine for taking up arms against Parliament, and was obliged to sell the family estates. In that way the Sunderlands forfeited High Sunderland after living there from 1274 until 1655.

A secret passage is said at one time to have connected High Sunderland with the parish church, and certainly there are the beginnings of a passage, but this is blocked up and unsafe, for the property has for a century been steadily falling into decay. The present tenant asserts that from his kitchen he can faintly hear the playing of the church organ. The intervening distance is a mile. The natural stone in this part is a yellowish sandstone, the all-over grey appearance being created by the depredations of a smoke-laden atmosphere.

Steeply down hill again, the road takes us back to Halifax by way of Horley Green and Claremont, and we cannot leave the town without a reference to the splendid church, which, a diamond in a coal-heap, ranks among the fine churches in England. It was dedicated in 1095, at the same time as the Priory of Lewes, but the greater part was built in the fifteenth century, and the numerous masons' marks upon the outer walls date from that time; the interior walls, now rough and bare, had then a smooth coat of plaster, and were decorated with scenes from the Bible and the lives of the saints; the



6.—THE SOUTH DOORWAY OF HIGH SUTHERLAND

roof was blue, dotted over with gold stars, the stone pillars colourfully painted and the windows filled with stained glass of surpassing beauty. There was, too, a magnificent rood-screen. Fine woodwork remains to-day in the form of grotesque animals, mermaids, and pelicans and "Poor John," whose gnarled, 15th-century hand still supplicatingly grasps the poor-box.

It was at one time believed that a portion of the head of John the Baptist was preserved in the church, and the name of the town (Halex Fax or Holy Face) was derived, and the borough coat-of-arms designed, from that idea. An Elizabethan vicar of considerable individuality, Doctor Favour, leaves us a curiosity in the form of his register, in which he was accustomed to comment, not always favourably, upon deceased parishioners. He tells us that Gregory Pauldè, buried on January 19, 1600, was "an arrant hypocritical rogue; William King of Skircoat, a swearer and drinker, whose last words were oaths and curses; Sara, daughter of John Fearensyde, a most damnable, wicked queane." An authority on church architecture says, "Almost the single glory of Halifax is its grand old Mother Church, crowned by a tower which for simple dignity is possibly unrivalled in the Riding."

There may have been justification for the Thieves' Litany ("From Hull, Hell, and Halifax good Lord deliver us!"). For those who now want to be delivered, I have indicated a brief, refreshing avenue of escape.



7.—A 16th-CENTURY HOSTELRY IN THE OBSCURE PART OF THE VALLEY—SHIBDEN MILL INN

THE ADVENTUROUS FLYCATCHER

By LESLIE SMITH

SOMETIMES in a human family one member gains the reputation of being a bit of a buffoon, and I am inclined to think that the same may be true among birds. Certainly George, the spotted flycatcher, acted the part.

The pair of flycatchers had returned as usual to the garden in the end of May, but it was some time before I found where they had built their nest. It was not in the wall of the garage where a brick had been dislodged, which had been their usual choice, nor in the knot-hole in the apple tree, which had been second favourite. Perhaps it was on account of the number of cats to be seen prowling about that they chose a more secure position on a limb of a horse-chestnut at least twenty feet from the ground, a rather unusual site for a flycatchers' nest.

Time went on and all the eggs hatched. Soon the young birds could be seen standing up in the nest during the absence of their parents, preening and exercising their wings, and it was then for the first time that George came into the picture. He was always the most venturesome and the most enthusiastic in carrying out the programme of P.T. exercises. The result, I suppose, was inevitable; he was found one day on the ground below the tree having fallen from the nest. Fortunately the grass was long and I had broken his fall, and there he was, none the worse and obviously enjoying his adventure. His parents were not so happy; perhaps they still remembered the cats which they had seen prowling around.

Several days must elapse before the young bird would be able to fly, but the rest of the brood were so far advanced that to attempt to return him to the nest would almost certainly have caused them all to leave prematurely. It was therefore decided to provide George with a basket fixed to a pole in the middle of the lawn not far from his home-tree, with a lid which could be closed at night for safety from possible enemies.

So George took up his new residence, and he saw to it that his parents were not left long in doubt as to his whereabouts. He chirped incessantly, and I believe that his continuous outcry resulted in his getting far more food than his brothers and sisters which still remained in the nest.

In spite of the attentions of the old birds, George's appetite never seemed to be satisfied. He was

the greediest little bird I have ever seen. It was impossible to keep him in the basket, as he invariably clambered up the side and perched himself precariously on the edge, where he greeted the arrival of his parents with even louder chirps than usual and rapidly quivering wings. Sometimes he got so excited that he lost his balance and disappeared into the depths of his basket.

He was never quiet for long; even when he nodded off to sleep an occasional dreamy chirp could be heard. I believe he dreamt of food. Certainly there were times when he suddenly woke with fluttering wings and renewed clamour as if a particularly luscious grub was being placed in his mouth, to find that there was no grub in sight; his father and mother were busy attending to the rest of the family.

The sight of food always set his wings in motion, and one of the most amusing incidents that I witnessed was when a little piece of a fly stuck on the tip of his beak. Here was food within his reach and so his wings continued to vibrate, yet he could not get it into his mouth, and he had not sufficient sense to scrape it off against his perch. It was not until his mother returned and daintily removed the tit-bit that he quietened down.

Later I placed him on a branch to



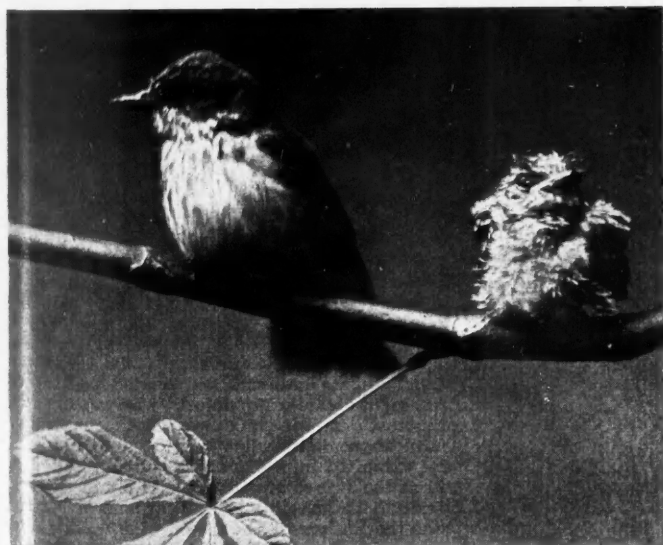
A SPOTTED FLYCATCHER ON ITS LOOK-OUT POST



GEORGE ON THE EDGE OF HIS BASKET HOME

photograph him. He was quite old enough to perch properly, but the appearance of food nearly always made him overbalance in his eagerness to obtain this. Sometimes when the old birds arrived to feed him, he would suddenly disappear, having fallen overboard. It generally took them some few moments to find where he had gone, usually directed by his chirps from below.

So the danger period passed, and he learned to fly. He could no longer be kept in the basket when the lid was raised for the entry of his parents, and he joined the rest of the family among the trees and shrubs in the garden, where they could be seen and heard for several weeks assiduously attended by the old birds. I am sure that even then I could recognise George's voice, loud above the rest.



THE HEN TURNED HER HEAD FOR A MOMENT AND WHEN SHE LOOKED BACK GEORGE HAD OVERBALANCED AND DISAPPEARED

COLLECTORS' QUESTIONS

IMITATION INLAY ON LATE 18th-CENTURY FURNITURE

I HAVE a pair of folding-top card-tables, veneered mahogany inlaid with satinwood bands, strongly resembling those made about 1800. The small oval panels inset to decorate the upper ends of the square tapering legs and a larger oval centre panel in front, each consisting of a rosette of oak leaves in light yellow with sepia rays on a greyish-yellow background appear at first sight to be excellent inlay-work. But on minute inspection, the grain of the wood can be seen running right across the panels, and it seems evident that the outlines of the design were incised on a single piece of wood, filled in with a black, waxy substance, and the various components of the pattern stained in situ. (Or perhaps the pieces were all cut from the same bit, stained and re-inserted, like a jig-saw).

Can you tell me if this is really, as it seems, a disreputable practice of more recent times, or if it can actually be found in late 18th-century work? The tables are so well made, so elegant and beautiful, that this discovery gave me a painful surprise.—ED. J. DOMMEN, 16, Lord Street, Hoddesdon, Hertfordshire.

The form of enrichment of furniture by outlining a design, and filling in these lines with a black substance (and sometimes with colour) was practised in the late eighteenth century, and it does not follow that the piece is of modern construction. As Sheraton writes, inlay was an expensive method of enrichment, and simplified enrichments, such as the technique just mentioned, and also pasting down painted ornaments to represent simple inlay, were obvious labour-saving devices.

THE SHEPHERDESS

I should be grateful if you would insert among the Collectors' Questions in your paper the enclosed photograph of a portrait of a lady believed to be by Wissing. The picture was bought some eighty years ago at a country house sale in the West of Ireland. I am informed by a cousin that the portrait is said to be of a certain Anne Fotherby, who married first a Mr. Monmontisson and secondly Sir Edward Dering.

Possibly this information would help in ascertaining whether the portrait was engraved.—A. I. MACNAGHTEN, Hadleigh House, Windsor, Berkshire.

This portrait has all the characteristics of Wissing (1656-87). A portrait of a different lady but painted as a shepherdess in exactly the same pose was engraved by John Smith from a painting by W. Wissing and J. Van der Vaart. The sitter was Lady Elizabeth Wilmot. Chaloner Smith gives the date of this mezzotint as 1688. Jan van der Vaart (1647-1721) came to England in 1674 and for a while was employed by Wissing in painting draperies; he afterwards became a mezzotint engraver and John Smith received instruction from him. As to the identity of Mr. Macnaghten's lady, Sir Edward Dering, fifth Baronet of Surrenden Dering in Kent, married as his second wife (in 1735) Mary, daughter of Captain Charles Fotherby, R.N., of Barham, and widow of Henry Mompeyson; there were three children by this marriage. This identification can hardly be correct, unless the portrait was painted a good deal later than the one of Lady Elizabeth Wilmot, in which case it could not be by Wissing.

T. R. DAVIS, SPORTING PAINTER

The enclosed photograph is of a print in my possession by T. R. Davis. It has the following inscription: "Philip Payne. Huntsman to His Grace the Duke of Beaufort on his favourite horse (Cherrington) with hounds. This Print is dedicated by permission to His Grace by his most obedient humble servant, Thos. R. Davis. Painted by T. R. Davis, Esq., Student of the Royal Academy. Engraved by C. Turner, Mezzotint Engraver in Ordinary to His Majesty. Published Dec. 8, 1826." Could you give me any information about Davis and



AN UNIDENTIFIED PORTRAIT, PROBABLY BY WISSING

See question: *The Shepherdess*

say whether the above subject was typical of his work? Three hounds are branded with a "B", but this may not appear in the photograph.—R. D'O. APLIN, 4, Barrowby Road, Grantham, Lincolnshire.

This mezzotint was engraved as a tribute to Philip Payne, who was successively huntsman to the Cottesmore and Cheshire Hunts before going to Badminton, where he remained under the mastership of the Duke of Beaufort until 1826. The engraving, which was published that year, bears the signature in script lettering of Thos. R. Davis, and he is generally accepted as being the painter of the picture as well as the dedicator of the mezzotint. There are, however, good reasons for believing that the artist was not the same man as the dedicator and that "T. R. Davis, Esq." refers to Tyddesley K. Davis (probably a member of the same family) who was a little-known painter of sporting subjects and an occasional exhibitor at the British Institution until 1857. The few pictures that can safely be attributed to him show that he was an animal painter of considerable merit. The original painting, signed and dated 1826, was sold at Christie's in 1934. Payne was succeeded at Badminton by the still more famous huntsman Will Long, who remained in the service of the Dukes of Beaufort for more than forty years.

JAMES WILSON CARMICHAEL

I have a fine oil painting of shipping on the Clyde, showing Penrose Castle in the distance. It is signed and dated J. W. Carmichael, 1862. Can you give me any particulars of this artist?—A. BULLARD, Oakley House, Bedford.

James Wilson Carmichael (1800-1868) was a once noted and still appreciated painter of seascapes and marine subjects, who was born at Newcastle-on-Tyne and worked in the North until about 1845, when he moved to London. He exhibited 21 works at the Royal Academy, 21 at the British Institution and six in Suffolk Street. He excelled in drawing shipping, and was the author of the series of *English Coast Views from the Mouth of the Thames to the Firth of Forth*. A full account of him will be found in Colonel M. H. Grant's *History of Old English Landscape*.



PHILIP PAYNE, HUNTSMAN TO THE DUKE OF BEAUFORT. MEZZOTINT BY C. TURNER AFTER T. R. DAVIS, 1826

See question: *T. R. Davis, Sporting Painter*

LEEDS WARE

I enclose photographs of an old tea-pot about which I should be glad to have particulars—name of maker and probable date. I can find no mark on the bottom of it. The pot is 4 inches in height, is cream in colour and has a very smooth glaze. The figures are in red and black and appear to have been painted with a very fine brush and not to be a transfer.—W. E. WARNER, Longacre, St. Osyth, Essex.

The cream-coloured earthenware tea-pot dates from about 1765-70, and was probably made at Leeds, Yorkshire, where enamel-painting in black and red of this character was



CREAM-COLOURED TEA-POT, PROBABLY OF LEEDS MANUFACTURE (circa 1765-70)

See question: Leeds Ware

popular as a mode of decoration. Leeds ware of that period is generally unmarked, and in the absence of a mark it is difficult to be quite certain that a particular piece was made at the Leeds Pottery and not by one of the Staffordshire firms, which were at the time producing cream-coloured ware of closely similar character.

DOUBLE WINE-GLASSES

Those of your readers, and they must have been many, who read with much pleasure and appreciation the two admirable articles on Waterford glass by Major-General H. T. MacMullen, may be interested to see the accompanying photograph of three unusual double wine-glasses in my possession. They have been in my family in County Down for six generations, and are believed to be of Waterford manufacture. The cutting on all three glasses is different, and there is a slight difference in their height, varying from 5 to 5½ ins.—R. W. H. BLACKWOOD, Castle-navin, Seaforde, County Down, Northern Ireland.

There can be no doubt but that the three wine-glasses illustrated are of Irish origin. From the character of the cutting, they are of Waterford manufacture. They are most unusual specimens, and in view of the fact that each is differently cut, they would appear to be a special order. Every type of cutting employed in the Waterford factory at the beginning of the nineteenth century is shown upon them. Mr. M. S. D. Westropp writes in the *Guide to the Art Collections in the National Museum of Science and Art, Dublin*: "The various patterns cut on Irish glass were probably largely copied from those employed in England, though possibly after a time, when Irish workmen learned the trade, new patterns were evolved." Further on he writes: "It is certain that the

very fine diamond cutting, strawberry diamonds and the large upright fluting were used at Waterford." The types of cutting on these interesting glasses appear on decanters, some on one and some on another; but we do not find four of them together, as is shown in each of these glasses. Eight different cutting designs are here depicted. The sherry bowl at one end and the port bowl at the other suggest an element of time-saving between them.

CATHERINE II'S COURT MEDALLIST

If you are able to give me any information about a medal, photographs of which I enclose, I shall be very grateful.—F. GREEN, 44, Burgoyne Road, Haringay, N.4.

This interesting medal was designed by Johann Caspar Jaeger, court medallist at St. Petersburg to the Czarina Catherine II from 1772 with a yearly stipend of 1,200 roubles. I. G. I. was the usual signature of this German-born medallist. Full information concerning his work is to be found in *Medaillen Auf Die Thaten Peter Des Grassen*, by J. Iversen, 1892. The medal is one of a series minted by the order of Catherine II at the end of the Russian-Turkish war of 1768-1772. The inscription on the reverse of the medal states that the scene engraved thereon is an unbelievable feat of daring. This would appear to be the moving into position of the gigantic block of granite, which was brought a long distance to St. Petersburg to form the base of the famous equestrian statue of Peter the Great. The monolith weighs 1,600 tons. The statue (by the French sculptor Falconet) was commissioned by Catherine II in 1769, but it was not completed until 1782. The medal is dated January 20, 1770.

MODERN PAPIER-MACHE

I should be glad if you could throw any light on a papier-mâché box which I have.

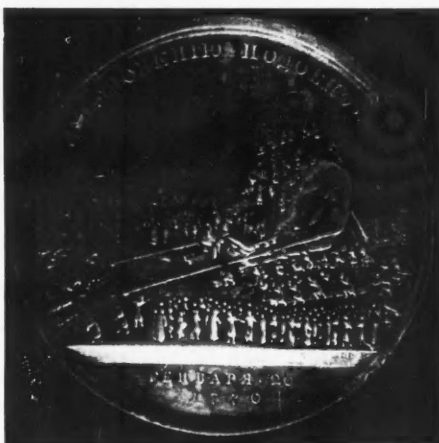
It is a round box, 4 ins. in diameter, with a coloured picture of the interior of an eating-house, depicting a diner having a good time with a big joint of beef on the table, while the landlord stands near by, looking on with displeasure. On the back of the box is the following:

No. 2

THE WRONG BOX.

The picture is of the Dickens period, and "No. 2" suggests there was a series of them, but I have not been able to find out.—THOMAS G. SCOTT, 19, Granville Road, Fallowfield, Manchester, 14.

We regret that our correspondent's papier-mâché box appears to be quite new: old boxes were never decorated with colour prints. Second-hand dealers the country over stock these and produce them singly as occasion



MEDAL STRUCK IN 1770 BY ORDER OF THE EMPRESS CATHERINE II

The scene on the reverse appears to be the moving into position of the gigantic block of granite forming the base of the statue of Peter the Great

See question: Catherine II's Court Medallist

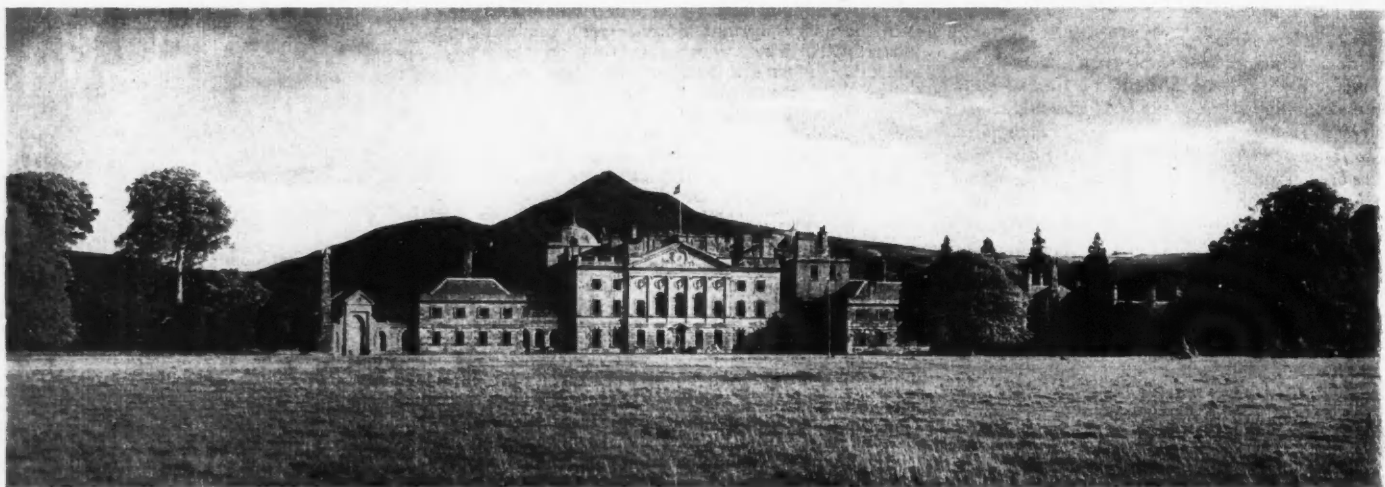
demands. The boxes themselves were imported from the Continent in the years preceding the war. Print, inscription and antique appearance were added in this country.

Questions intended for these pages should be forwarded to the Editor, COUNTRY LIFE, 2-10, Tavistock Street, W.C.2, and a stamped addressed envelope enclosed for reply. In no case should originals be sent; nor can any valuation be made.



THREE DOUBLE WINE-GLASSES OF WATERFORD MAKE SHOWING EIGHT DIFFERENT CUTTING DESIGNS

See Question: Double Wine-glasses



1.—POWERSCOURT HOUSE AND THE SUGARLOAF MOUNTAIN FROM THE NORTH*

POWERSCOURT, CO. WICKLOW—III

THE SEAT OF VISCOUNT POWERSCOURT By CHRISTOPHER HUSSEY

The demesne of Powerscourt House (built 1730-65) following the romantic glen of the River Dargle culminates in the spectacular falls where King George IV, but for the intervention of Providence, would have been drowned in 1821

TWICE during the "troubles" intimation was given that Powerscourt House was to be burnt. On each occasion good fortune or better counsel intervened to the subsequent benefit of Eire. Previous articles have illustrated how superb a national possession is constituted by the great Georgian house with its contents, and by the magnificent gardens, comparable to the finest European examples. But also by its owner being suffered to remain in the home of his forefathers, it may be remarked that the Free State Hospital Organisation has gained in the eighth Viscount Powerscourt an admirable President under whose ægis the world-wide reputation of the Irish Hospital Sweepstakes and, which is less generally realised, a hospital and clinical service second to none in Europe have been built up. In addition, the

Powerscourt demesne, comprising some of the grandest scenery in Ireland, is not only well maintained and made freely accessible to the public, but has in part been dedicated by Lord and Lady Powerscourt to the Boy Scouts and Girl Guides of Eire.*

The site of the house above the steep-sided valley of the River Dargle has already been described. The approach to it from Enniskerry follows the crest of the valley's east side through groves of noble beeches (Fig. 2), in the intervals of which the visitor catches sudden glimpses of the rushing river below and the distant profile of the Sugarloaf Mountain (Fig. 3). Skilled forestry and appreciation of landscape over a period of

more than two centuries have gone to fostering the natural beauty of the demesne, through which it is possible to follow the river for some three or four miles up to its spectacular falls (Fig. 4). The most artistry has, of course, been applied to the slopes adjoining the mansion, especially during the last hundred years covered by the lifetimes of the sixth, seventh and present Viscounts. Here many rare and notable trees are to be seen, and common species, which evidently find the mixed rock and clay soil, well drained by the steep slopes, to their liking, have grown to unusual luxuriance and beauty of shape. The "record" tree is a Sitka spruce 168 ft. high, the tallest tree in Ireland, growing in the valley bottom below the gardens. Within the gardens may be mentioned as rarities the New Zealand *Fagus betuloides*, a *Drimys Winteri* that has attained 30 ft., a *Cupressus macrocarpa*, 70 years old of spreading growth like a cedar, and a *Eucalyptus globosus* only 25 years old but about 100 ft. high, seen in the middle of Fig. 8.

* As this article goes to press we learn with great regret of the death of Viscountess Powerscourt.—Ed.



2.—ON THE APPROACH: OLD BEECHES ON THE LIP OF THE DARGLE VALLEY

The pond in the picture—the Green Pool—lies at the far extremity of the spur carrying the west terrace and old walled gardens, the latter entered opposite the pool by the English Gate (Fig. 10). Its wrought-iron gates, collected by the seventh Viscount, are a feature of the walled gardens which, of course, existed long before the formation of the great formal landscape terraces during the latter half of last century (illustrated last week). From the English Gate a long double border leads to the inner enclosure entered by the Vine Gate (Fig. 9), a graceful *clair-voie* probably Italian. In the sides of this garden two other gates are on the line of the main garden terrace, 800 yards long in all: in the west side the Bamberg Gate (Fig. 11)—early 18th-century German, and identified



3.—A VIEW SOUTHWARD FROM THE APPROACH

(Right) 4.—THE FALL OF THE DARGLE, 300 FT. HIGH

after its purchase as from Bamberg Cathedral by the characteristic perspective design of the central portion; in the east the Chorus Gate, a copy of another German work probably of 17th-century date (Fig. 12).

Lord and Lady Powerscourt added considerably to the garden in an easterly direction. On a spur near the old church and near the east end of the main terrace he has built the view tower (Fig. 5), "fortified" with some of his collection of saluting and other guns, which overlooks a valley in which Lady Powerscourt formed a highly effective and colourful Japanese garden. Only the atrocious weather of last autumn prevented inclusion of a photograph of it.

But it is an ill wind that blows no good: September's downpours at least ensured that the falls were at their best—though not, fortunately, in quite such spate as nearly altered the course of English history, and nearly associated the name of Powerscourt with Guy Fawkes, when George IV visited Ireland. On the occasion of his visit in 1821 it was intended that, after the banquet in the Saloon at Powerscourt, His Majesty should enjoy this magnificent natural spectacle. In order that he should be enabled to appreciate its full grandeur a Chinese bridge, culminating in a pavilion, had been built across the stream below the falls, and to ensure their giving a good display a dam had been formed above the falls, to be exploded when the King was seated in the pavilion. The banquet, however, was of excellent quality and somewhat prolonged, so that time did not permit of the King making this expedition. Which was extremely fortunate in that, when the dam was exploded, the rush of water was so great that the bridge was carried away and, as those present agreed, "a fearful catastrophe was averted."

The way to the falls from the house passes at first through beech and conifer woodland. Much felling has taken place on the estate during the war owing to the national shortage of fuel. But it has been





5.—VIEW TOWER IN THE GARDENS OF POWERSCOURT HOUSE



6.—THE DARGLE GLEN IN THE DEER PARK ON THE WAY TO THE FALLS



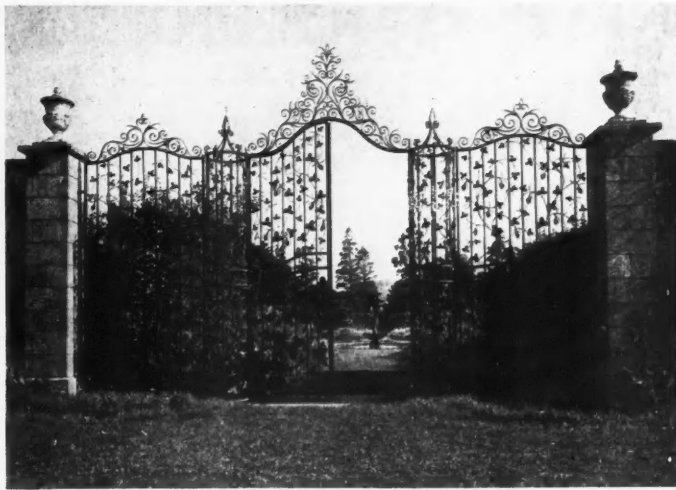
7.—ONE OF THE SCOUT CAMPS IN THE DEMESNE

possible to preserve, among other stands of timber, those dedicated to a number of Scout troops which have each constructed among the trees its own permanent hut—some in the depths of the wood, some on the river bank. These huts or log cabins differ in appearance but are alike in containing sleeping bunks and lockers for gear, and in each being surrounded by a little enclosure defining the troop's special domain. Scouts can use their huts whenever they want to, and those from a wide area have availed themselves of this delightful privilege, which gives them the freedom of hundreds of acres of moor and forest.

Among the plantations in this part of the demesne are several of monkey-puzzles, *Araucaria imbricata*, close grown as forest trees. Discovered in Chile in 1782, seeds were first brought to England by Vancouver in 1795 and raised at Kew by Sir Joseph Banks. The Victorian custom of planting a single specimen on a lawn is unjust to this curious tree which, in mass formation, attains not only heights of well over 100 ft. in its native habitat but an impressiveness lacking in isolation. A notable instance of this is the *Araucaria* avenue, 200 yards long, at Castle Kennedy, Wigton, but I have never seen it elsewhere than at Powerscourt forming whole plantations. These are as yet comparatively young, having been planted by the seventh Viscount about 1870, and have attained a height of around 60 ft.; but the rounded tops of the trees form a compact mass of deep green very effective in the landscape, and the straight silvery stems seen against the dense shade of the interior are dramatic. As a commercial crop the tree has scarcely had a chance to establish itself in the British Isles, but the timber, though soft, is white in colour with a handsome grain. Speaking of which, I may mention that among the most interesting contents of Powerscourt House is the collection of specimens of timbers formed by Lord Powerscourt and numbering many scores.

Soon after the monkey-puzzles the drive reaches the Glencree road, where that glen debouches from the west to join the mouth of the upper Dargle valley from the south. Before entering the Deer Park across the road and following the Dargle, the road can be followed downstream towards Tinnehinch—in the eighteenth century the principal inn of the neighbourhood where among many other tourists Arthur Young stayed when exploring these picturesque recesses. Later it was converted into a private residence and presented to Henry Grattan by the Irish nation, and he passed his later years there. From the river-side above Tinnehinch an impressive general view is obtained of the surrounding geography. Northwards stretch the wooded Powerscourt demesne which we have passed through; westwards stretches the well-defined Glencree with the slopes of Kippure forming its south side; the east horizon is formed by the Sugarloaf massif; and south loom the mountains of Douce and War Hill, out of which the Dargle flows down the glen contained in the Deer Park.

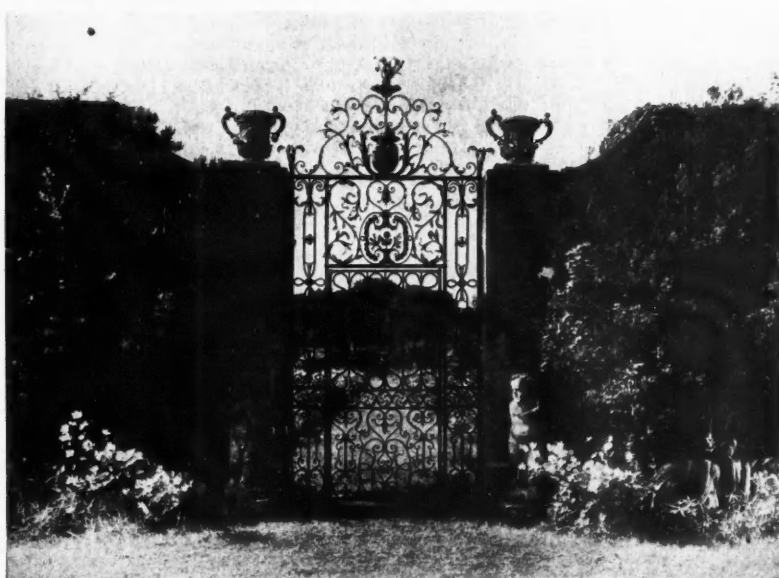
The deer were banished from the park in the first half of the nineteenth century, when the slopes of the glen were enclosed for conifer plantations and their native growth of sparse oaks felled. But the oak trees on the lower slopes and river bank were retained as scenic fringe to the plantations and now once again dominate the scene after the almost clear felling of the conifers on the upper slopes (Fig. 6). The drive follows the Dargle, now little more than a burn, in a gradual curve for about a mile, then takes a sudden turn to the right, losing itself in a lawn of natural turf thinly shaded by a grove of tall slender oaks and enclosed by an amphitheatre of precipitous rocks. Down this cliff which bars further progress the Dargle falls from ledge to ledge in a continuous succession of cascades, the whole some 300 ft. high. After rain



8.—THE GREEN POOL. A eucalyptus under 25 years old 100 ft. high. (Right) 9.—IN THE WALLED GARDENS. The Vine Gate

they are most impressive. The oaks, very considerable trees, which grow close to its foot, are completely dwarfed by the waterfall, which broadens as it descends. This is due to the rock strata over which it falls being steeply tilted so that the cascade has a diagonal tendency that adds much to its effectiveness. The turf, watered by the continual spray to a lush green, stretches to the very foot of the fall which, owing to the twist, is seen from this dramatic point in half profile as well.

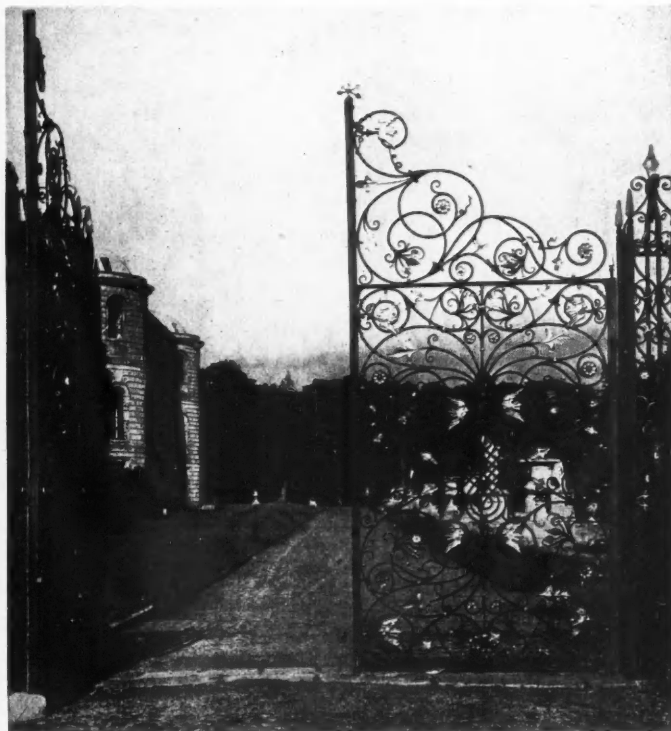
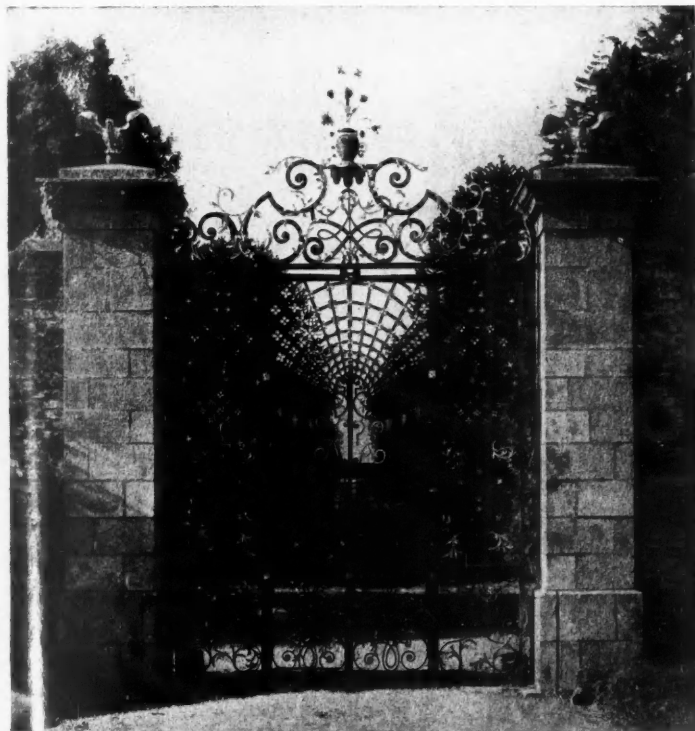
Highly fortunate as it was for all concerned that King George IV over-indulged at the Powerscourt banquet, it is nevertheless a pity that that part of the plan for his entertainment had to be abandoned. For, always assuming that the



10.—THE ENGLISH GATE

falls had not mis-behaved as they did, it would have been interesting to know what that Sovereign, after a banquet, would have said about the spectacle. It was a little easier, 120 years ago, to say the right thing about waterfalls. Yet a fine cascade, especially if it is, as this one is said to be, the highest in the British Isles, does arouse a primitive if naïve feeling of awe to which the beauty of its setting, in this solemn semicircle carpeted with exquisite turf, adds enchantment.

The whole romantic approach, particularly if that can include the gardens of Powerscourt House on one of the days that they are open to the public, make the expedition one well worth going to Eire specially to enjoy.



11.—THE BAMBERG GATE. (Right) 12.—THE CHORUS GATE AND SOUTH FRONT OF THE HOUSE

NEXT YEAR'S INTERNATIONAL HORSE SHOW

Written and Illustrated by JOHN BOARD

THE Olympic Games of 1948 are to be held in England, and in the equine events we, the host nation, should do excellently, for we have obtained a flying start in the matter of show jumping and should have the horses and men to compete in the rather exacting endurance test which includes, *inter alia*, a steeple-chase course which must be taken at racing pace, and the far-famed pond jump. But we may be sure that other nations will be working hard in building up and training their teams and they, unlike ourselves, have the backing and active support of their Governments.

In the circumstances the revival of the International Show at the White City next summer will be of exceptional interest, since jumping for the Prince of Wales's Cup and King George V Cup will again take place and we may expect a very strong challenge from the Continent and possibly from the Americas. It is to be hoped, too, that we may be able to welcome representatives from the Dominions. The show will be held daily for six days. The King, Patron of the Show, has promised to be present on one of the gala days and, since the organisation will be in the hands of the Executive of the British Show Jumping Association, we can be assured of the exercise of both imagination and energy. What a splendid spectacle it will be, and what an admirable setting, if the weather behaves even moderately well. Among the most notable classes will be Arabs under saddle (which should dispel any lingering doubts about the superb qualities of the Arab for use as well as beauty), hack pairs, always a favourite event among the *cognoscenti*, hunt teams judged on conformation and turn-out with a little jumping to give the proper atmosphere, a coaching class (alas, the past glories of the Park and Ranelagh in the great days of the Coaching Club!), a costers' turn-out class (though that will never be the same without Lord Lonsdale and his cigar) and a dressage test approximating to the first degree of the *Prix Caprilli*, which is an elementary exposition of the *manège*.

May we also hope that the Executive will insist on correct turn-out from com-

petitors? Some of the sartorial abominations with which we were inflicted last season were hard to bear and a blot on many otherwise delightful gatherings.

The art of dressage, which aims at exact accuracy of performance, is as yet still in its infancy in this country, and it is unlikely that British competitors will have attained sufficient proficiency to compete in the higher degrees called for in the *Prix Saint-Georges*, the *Grand Prix*, or the Olympic games. Incidentally the *Fédération Equestre Internationale* has eliminated the *Piaffe* and *Passage*, the latter embodying the movements of the *Piaffe*, but being carried out while horse and rider are advancing instead of stationary. Dressage is no more than the proof of a high standard of education in mount and man, and is by no means to be confused with *haute école*. No hunter, hack or any other saddle horse can but be improved by at least a modest ability in dressage. That proficiency in the show ring, be it in hack, hunter, or jumping classes, deprives a horse of scope and fluency has been disproved effectually by the successes of show winners in the hunting field and on the Turf.

Though we have every reason for a modest confidence, our teams must be selected early and given very thorough schooling. For this purpose, presumably, the resources of the National School of Equitation at Winkfield will be available.

As I have observed before, our teams must also be given opportunity to experience Continental conditions (their jumps are generally lower than ours, but there are more of them) and the time factor has great effect. During the autumn a team from the Army of Occupation in Germany, which has just formed a branch of the B.S.J.A., competed successfully in the *Concours Hippiques* at Geneva and Berne. From what I saw of the Irish, French (*cadre noir*) and Swedish teams at Dublin and what I saw at Blackpool and elsewhere this year I should say that at present our best are better than theirs to a marked degree. It is up to us to retain that lead.

The *Fédération Equestre Internationale* recently held a meeting in Paris which was

attended by representatives of 16 nations (Lieut.-Col. Mike Ansell being the British member on behalf of the Institute of the Horse and B.S.J.A.) with the only notable absences the United States, Spain and Russia. Our representative was bombarded with questions about our methods and lay-out, the secret of which is imagination and a thorough knowledge of the business. National representation in future will be by civilian, military or mixed teams, owing to the rapid extinction of cavalry.

The jumping rules of the F.E.I. are simple, but differ from ours in the stress laid on the time factor. A reasonable time limit is necessary, but the speed of the round is, we consider, immaterial within that limit. In fact the insistence on high speed tends to bad horsemanship, for though a "spread" jump calls for pace to obtain necessary forward impetus, to charge a gate, wall or post and rails at top speed is not only bad riding, but also suicidal. That is not to say that collection and a "tipping" approach has not been overdone in England. The truth is that exaggeration in either direction is wrong. It is to be hoped that "standard" times will be abandoned, but a time limit retained in international jumping. Ties should be (as they are in this country) jumped off as being a truer test and a far more exciting culmination for the onlookers. A suggestion that the course for Olympic jumping be published beforehand was vetoed, but a list of obstacles from which the actual courses will ultimately be selected will be made public.

The popularity of horse shows has been remarkable since the war. We are, after all, horse-lovers, even if we are not all horsemen. Nearly every show has been not only enjoyable, but also profitable. But do not let us forget those not in the championship class, and see to it that classes be instituted for novice riders and horses and for local classes at every show. Can we not, too, once and for all, set our faces firmly against the brutal fashion of docking horses? No horse's appearance is improved by this senseless mutilation. Their lifelong sufferings as the result are too hideous to regard without violent indignation.



"AMONG THE MOST NOTABLE CLASSES WILL BE ARABS UNDER SADDLE"

RACEHORSE TRANSPORT

THE news that, for the first time in history, six horses have been flown across the Atlantic from Ireland to California (and suffered no ill effect in transit) will no doubt revolutionise the bloodstock world, and it may be expected that in the future racing will become more and more internationalised.

The story of the development of horse transportation is one of absorbing interest. Until just over one hundred years ago racehorses, or mares visiting stallions, moved by road on their own feet, and it was not until 1836 that the active and ingenious mind of Lord George Cavendish-Bentinck conceived the idea of sending them by van in order to save them from the fatigue and delays that are inseparable from travelling on foot.

Lord George, who then trained at Goodwood with the help of Kent, had under his care a colt called Elis, which was entered in the Doncaster St. Leger. On Kent's advice he consulted Herring, the coach-builder of Long Acre, and arranged for him to construct a van capable of holding two horses. This van was a big, cumbersome vehicle and the loading and unloading of the horses presented as awkward a problem as it does with an aeroplane to-day. But the difficulty was overcome by banking the ground to form a ramp, and on Friday, September 16, Elis and his stable-mate, The Drummer, were packed into the van which, drawn by six horses, set out on the long trek to Doncaster, a distance of about 250 miles.

The journey was divided into three stages, each of about eighty miles, and at the end of the second day Elis and his companion were unboxed, and were galloped on Lichfield race-

course on the Sunday morning before journeying onwards on the Monday to Doncaster, where their arrival at the Turf Tavern, in the evening, was witnessed by thousands of people and caused considerable amazement.

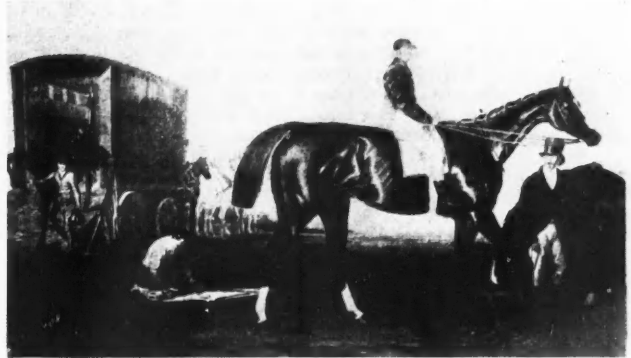
There is a fitting conclusion to the story, for Elis, carrying Lord Lichfield's colours and ridden by J. Day, duly won the St. Leger.

The expenses of the journey to and from Doncaster, with each pair of post-horses costing 2s. a mile, was about £150, and improved copies of the horse-box, made by Hunnybun of Newmarket, were soon on sale at £120 for a single and £160 for a double.

The coming of the railways meant the virtual extinction of this mode of transport; in due course motors took the place of the railways, and now the aeroplane bids fair to outdo both. Recently six horses belonging to the Kildangan Stud left Shannon Aerodrome in Ireland for Los Angeles, and covered the 7,000 miles in 29 hours. Compare this with the time it took for Elis to journey from Goodwood to Doncaster, or again, with the 35 hours that it took twenty horses from the Kildangan Stud to travel the 350 miles, as the crow flies, from Kildangan to the Newmarket December Sales by train and boat. And yet the cost per mile, per horse,

for these distances is less to-day by air than it was 110 years ago by road. The journey of the two horses from Goodwood to Doncaster and back, a distance of approximately 500 miles, cost about £150, while the cost of flying the six horses from Ireland to California—a distance of some 7,000 miles—was about £3,750.

Such is progress. Next year, or the year after, it may be possible for horses to race at Santa Anita one week; at Epsom or Ascot the next; and at Chantilly or Longchamp on the following Sunday, before returning home via Moscow or Milan. It sounds altogether fascinating—provided racing correspondents are not expected to go, too. ROYSTON.



LORD LICHFIELD'S ELIS, winner of the St. Leger in 1836 and the first racehorse to be transported by road. His stable companion is dismounting from the horse-box

THE ORIGINALITY OF MAPPIE

IN the tranquil days before the Japanese invasion of Java in 1942, my small son, then only a few months old, had a baby white rabbit given to him by a patient of my husband.

Mappie, as we called her, came in a birdcage, and was easily small enough to lop in and out through its tiny door. She very soon became tame enough to play around her cage on a large table and, as she grew older and bigger, the original idea of building a hutch for her was abandoned, as she seemed to be quite at home about the house, and perfectly clean.

I cannot remember when she began to be a "character," but character she certainly developed, and a great source of amusement she was to all of us. Every morning she could be found in the surgery, sitting compactly on the black and grey tiles under the examination table, looking very snowy and completely at her ease. The child patients loved this, and even quite painful moments, when wounds were dressed or injections administered, were successfully endured because of the antics of the rabbit, who was always ready to emerge when called. She would return to position before the call of "Next, please."

As soon as the consultation hour was over, she ran into the garden for a scamper with the dog, Nellie. Nellie, who was also rather a "character," did not appreciate the tormenting attentions of the tiny white creature, and the performance was well worth watching. Mappie would lop up to the dog, sleeping in the sun, and smell at her ear. Thus tickled, Nellie woke with a start, and the fun began, for Mappie set out to tease her outrageously.

The campaign opened with Mappie's tempting Nellie to pursuit, but when capture appeared imminent she just leaped clean over the dog, to the latter's complete and irritated bewilderment. The game would go on, with Nellie becoming more and more exasperated while Mappie remained mockingly cool and white.

This frolic over, the rabbit would return to the house in search of me, to whom she was fanatically attached, and on seeing me she would run up excitedly and jump into my lap like a cat, to have her ears pulled and tickled. During the siesta she slept on a little mat beside my bed, but at night she allowed herself to be

caught after a long and, for me, tiresome game, and shut up in a wire-topped box. Should any of the servants try this game of catch they soon gave up, for Mappie was all guile and lightning decisions, taken at the crucial moment when capture seemed inevitable.

She and I also had a crazy garden game which we were constantly being called upon to perform, called "Clap Clap Handies, Map, Map, Map!" This consisted of tattoo-like hand claps on my part, and Mappie would prick up her ears and display her repertoire of tricks. We never actually taught her anything; it arose from sheer *joie de vivre* and, as we often told ourselves, an undoubted and fundamental understanding of *esprit de corps*! She would twist and turn, leaping at intervals into the air and executing the maddest somersaults, kicking out with her hind legs and jumping through my arms untiringly. These absurd mid-air acrobatics lasted while the clapping went on. It seemed to work her into a frenzy.

By day she lived behind the settee in a corner of the living-room, and there amused herself by nibbling flexes from wireless and reading-lamp, which in consequence continually needed repair. We often wondered how it was she never got a shock. One day a friend called, mainly to show off a new and beautiful silk sunshade her husband had given her. My little boy, by this time a mischievous toddler, dropped it behind the settee right on top of Mappie, who doubtless considered it a gift of some sort from Heaven. Presently a horrid rending noise was to be heard from behind us, and the lovely sunshade was ruined beyond reasonable repair, its top torn and munched through all the thicknesses.

This same friend grew lettuces and supplied us daily with what became known as Mappie's Dream. These phenomena were really lettuces long gone to seed, and were of heroic height and girth. Mappie loved them. Beginning at the flower end, she worked her way through two or more feet of stalk and foliage till there was nothing left of the Dream. If still unsatisfied she would help herself to sprays of orchids hanging gracefully from my carefully arranged vases.

One day a fox terrier, seeing her feeding on the lawn, jumped, in his excitement, through

a car window, and gave chase; but Mappie, after a very clever zig-zag course, drawing ever nearer to the house, was at last able to dart in. The terrier, who had a reputation to uphold as a ratter, looked rather foolish. But Mappie learnt her lesson, and always thereafter she streaked into the house when a strange dog came in sight.

A thing that amused us a good deal was the little rabbit's interest in the young of her rival pets. Tibbits, the evil-looking red cat, in her basket surrounded by tiny ginger kittens, was a continual source of wonder to Mappie, who would lop daintily up to the basket (she had the neatest forefeet imaginable), and pop her head in. This invariably earned her a wallop from the cat, but she was not in the least discouraged and continued to show the greatest fondness for the kittens, especially when they began playing. She apparently did not like the smell of Nellie's variegated litter, but as the pups grew up she teased them as she did their mother, turning somersaults over them, to their complete stupefaction.

If we had been away for any length of time we always looked forward to the welcome home by our animals. Nellie knew the sound of our car the whole length of the road away and, taking their cue from her, they would arrange themselves on the steps of the front verandah; Nellie all eagerness on one side, keeping as much space as possible between herself and her tormenter; Mappie, with her long ears flipping sensitively, on the other; and in the middle background Tibbits the cat. They all had to be rewarded and petted in turn, and the proceedings were apt to be made lively by their little jealousies.

Mappie's untimely end, at the age of two, was both mysterious and sad. One morning, following an apparently normal day, we found her dead, with foam at her mouth, and were never able to discover just what had happened to her.

She was indeed mourned by her numerous admirers, and it was a long time before we became resigned to missing her comely white figure lopping and darting inconsequentially about the house.

All who knew her were agreed that she was a highly exceptional animal. Rabbits are usually anything but original creatures, and this undoubtedly our Mappie was. A. K. G.

HISTORY IN THE PARISH CHEST

By EDMUND BARBER

THE recent extension of local government franchise to correspond with that of Parliament is "bringing alive," to use a cant phrase of the moment, the whole system of local and regional representation through which we are governed. Much of that system is of very recent construction—a framework of county and district councils imposed upon the country to meet the needs of the population for more coherent administration in late Victorian times. One part of it, and that the most essentially democratic, is older than Parliament itself.

It is no part of the intention of this article to discuss the future of parish government or the importance of the part that it may well play in the reconstruction of the countryside. But its antiquity is a matter of great importance, and this is a time when minds are open not only to the possibilities of the future but to the support that men find in the continuity of tradition and the existence of an ascertained background in the past to their present endeavours. To-day we realise the tonic effect of a corporate consciousness based upon a history that is the history of our community. And this applies just as much to a village as to a kingdom. It is very natural, therefore, that there should be in the present revival of interest in public records a good deal of overdue attention paid to those that are almost purely local and that enlightened counties should be establishing muniment rooms and publishing indexes, lists and calendars of their records. Quite recently it has been urged in many quarters that every parish in the kingdom—or some individual within it—should undertake the preparation of a parish history, and the task—which is no easy one for the unskilled historian—has been immensely lightened by the publication of a very close and compendious general study of the records of parochial administration in England by Mr. W. E. Tate, with the title *The Parish Chest* (Cambridge University Press, 21s.). With its lucid survey of every aspect of its subject, its bibliographical annotation, its list of published records and table of statutory references, it is obviously indispensable to any parish or village historian. Apart from its special use to him it may be warranted to fascinate any historically minded reader who cultivates an attitude of realism in his outlook on the past.

Mr. Tate's chief concern is to explain what to look for and what we are likely to discover in our parish chests: still more, what the significance may be of the records when we find them. His general conclusion, unfortunately, is that the English parish often neither knows nor cares what records it possesses, and consequently that at any time it may cease to possess them. "Here and there," he says, "an enlightened incumbent may arrange and classify the parochial records, or a historically minded bishop or archdeacon may use his influence to check gross neglect to ensure that at any rate some kind of inventory is made for the Chest of every parish within his jurisdiction, and to ordain that this inventory shall be checked at intervals, especially at each change in the incumbency. Too often, however, the incumbent's work is lost when

in process of time he leaves the parish." Mr. Tate goes on to remark that in the minds of ecclesiastical officials the parish registers often loom so large that they dwarf in importance all other records of every sort, and that consequently these documents, particularly the civil records of the village community, are often much neglected in areas where every proper care is taken of the parish registers. He gives many unfortunate instances in which invaluable documents have disappeared and cites the case of Creech St. Michael, where, "on the evidence of one who took part in the destruction," a number of old papers, as well as other relics, were destroyed on the ground of their age; also the case of Holford where the records "were mouldy and illegible, and were all burned a year or so ago." His general conclusion, however, is that there still remains in the parish chests of the country a colossal quantity of priceless historical material—and this valuable not merely to the genealogist and to the antiquary but equally useful to the economic or social historian and to the student of agricultural history. His plea is that this mass of material should be brought to light; for the more it is used, the less likely it is to disappear.

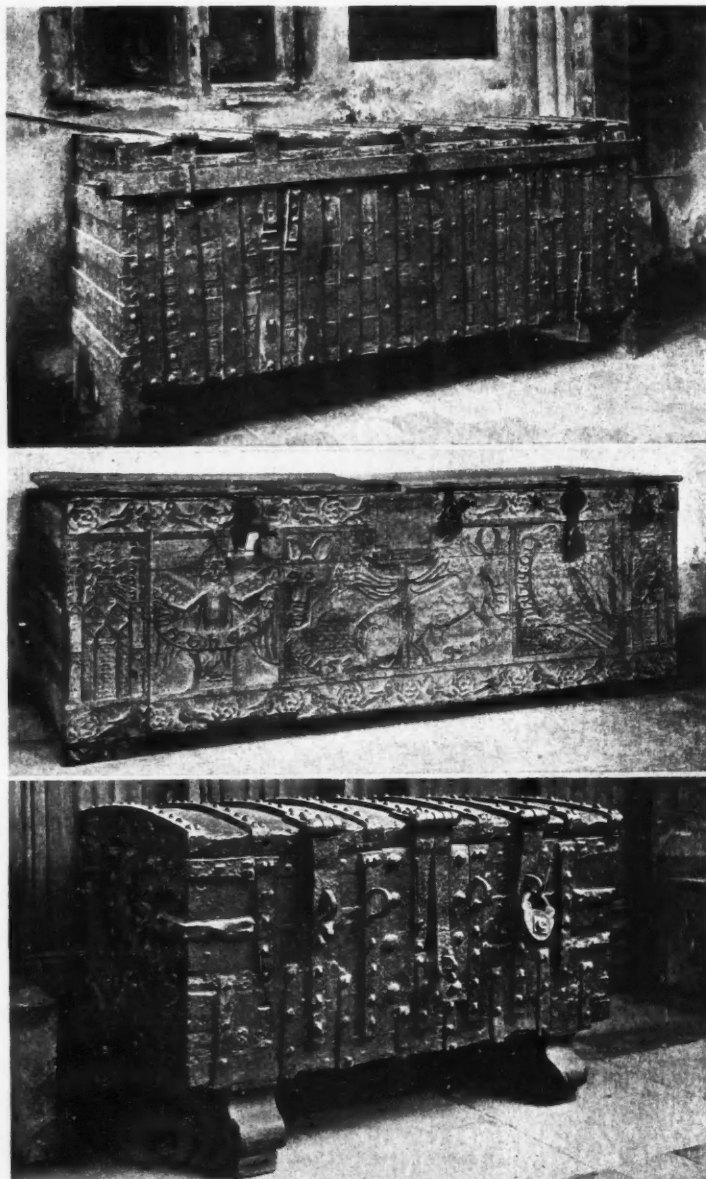
Mr. Tate votes parish-record-searching a

fascinating sport, though he admits the taste to be an acquired one. The fascination to some extent arises from the uncertainty of the results. A most inviting church may have been swept clean of every vestige of record, by the reforming zeal of some parish official or the spring-cleaning fervour of some vicar's daughter, while some much restored and apparently quite unpromising church turns out, upon enquiry, to have preserved hundredweights of material dating back to mediæval times. Next, when the records are definitely there, is it always easy to find them, reposing beneath piles of ancient hymn-books and disused vestments in the parish chest.

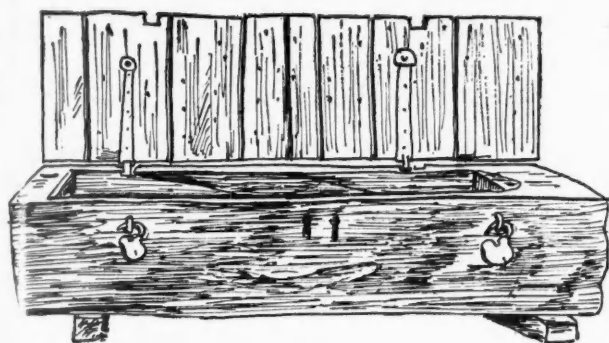
Before discussing what these records may be, something may be said of the ancient chests themselves. The oldest and most primitive chests consist of a substantial log, having its centre hollowed out and its sides roughly squared with the axe. The wood chosen for such chests is generally oak, but Mr. Tate gives instances of the use of elm, cypress and cedar. The storage capacity of these clumsy chests is naturally small in proportion to their size. A chest at Wimborne, Dorset, which is 6 feet long, has a cavity only 22 inches by 9 by 6; another chest at Curdworth, Warwickshire, is 10 feet long. In the early part of the thirteenth century, as appears from the iron scroll work and decorated hinges, a primitive box type of chest was in vogue made of substantial boards fastened with great wrought-iron nails. A well-known example of a chest almost covered with scroll-work is that at Malpas, Cheshire. By the end of the century there was much more evidence of the carpenter's art to be seen and chests were strengthened with iron bands or chains which were sometimes passed round a pillar of the church. The custom gradually developed of decorating the horizontal bands differently from the vertical stiles, with an arcading on the boards, for instance, and chip-carved roundels in the stiles.

After the fourteenth century most chests took a form based upon the construction of a frame with corner posts and top and bottom rails, and the filling of the sides with panels. True panelled construction is common from the fifteenth century, the panels often bearing much tracery and the chests being further decorated with fretted lock and escutcheon plates. There is a close resemblance between church chests of the period and the secular "Flanders kists" and some of these chests were no doubt imported from the Continent.

The secular parallel is to be found later in the linen-fold panelling characteristic of the later fifteenth century, and from Tudor times the identification and dating of chests is not difficult, especially when reference is made to secular furniture of the same period. After the Renaissance the characteristic Gothic ornaments made way for classical details and woods other than oak began to be used, especially as inlays and overlays. About 1600 the prevalent rage for walnut began to make itself felt, and chests of the period are occasionally found with cabriole legs and ball feet. Then came the repeal of the Mahogany Duty in 1753 and in a few wealthy city churches mahogany began to take the place of the woods formerly



THREE PARISH CHESTS: (Top) UFFINGTON (LINCOLNSHIRE), (middle) DERSINGHAM (NORFOLK), (bottom) BOSTON (LINCOLNSHIRE)



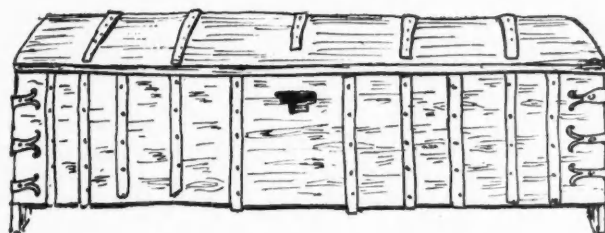
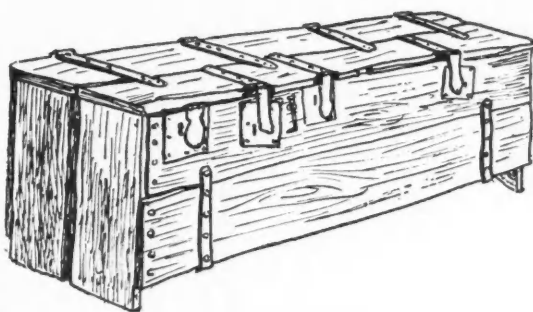
THE EVOLUTION OF THE CHEST:

(Left) CHEADLE, STAFFORDSHIRE

(Right) ST OAK, CHESHIRE

(Below) ASTBURY, CHESHIRE.

(Note.—The match-boarding lid of the Cheadle chest is not, of course, original)



in fashion. After this time art began to give way to utility and, as Mr. Tate says, the desire of the parish officials was not so much for the provision of a magnificent piece of furniture which would at once ornament their own church and be the envy of neighbouring parishes as for a plain substantial box to give ample space for the holding of the vast masses of poor-law papers which they began to accumulate.

With regard to the possible contents of such chests, the existence or non-existence of registers or transcriptions in any particular case is probably not in doubt. Mr. Tate has much to tell us of missing registers, of forged entries and of diocesan transcripts which will be of the utmost interest to the student of local history. Churchwardens' accounts come next on Mr. Tate's list of ecclesiastical records, though strictly speaking they should antedate the registers by several centuries. They are still little known and many parishes have none. Where they exist they are likely to yield much information with regard to church rates and the maintenance of the church fabric, besides many other matters involving expenditure. Charity accounts are particularly interesting, and it is usual to find in any old parish church a "table of benefactors," giving the dates, donors and values of benefactions to the parish. Such benefactions were in early times almost invariably entrusted to the incumbents and churchwardens. Glebe "terriers," records of the church's possessions in the parish, have presumably always been made, but "terriers" of date before 1604 are rarely met with. Tithe suits and

controversies yield much information, especially with regard to the incessant friction between the clergy and farmers. Other ecclesiastical records with which the book deals in detail include Visitation records, Notices and Proclamations and Vestry minutes and agreements.

An examination of the question of the parish constable's accounts leads Mr. Tate naturally to the records of poor-law administration that many parishes still retain. In mediaeval times the duty of relieving the poor, though legally incumbent upon the manors, was generally recognised as normally falling especially upon the church. It is impossible here to follow the history of poor-law administration since the Act of 1601 that established the office of overseers of the poor, but a perusal of the specimen records given in Mr. Tate's book will show what an important contribution to this side of social history may be found in the parish chest.

Among the most important yields of documents to be found in parish chests are those relating to Enclosure Acts and Awards, and for the student of agricultural history Mr. Tate's

section dealing with them will suggest many unworked mines of information the existence of which may still remain unknown. It appears that the control of open fields and commons under the old system was never formally transferred from the court leet to the vestry, but as the court baron gradually lapsed the vestry stepped into its place. Mr. Tate gives many instances of this gradual supersession and very interesting they are.

Enclosure awards to be found in parish chests fall into four main classes: (1) Early agreements and awards under private agreements of the parties affected. (2) Awards made by enclosure commissioners acting under private Acts. (3) Awards made without any application to Parliament under the General Act of 1836. (4) Awards made by "assistant commissioners" under the General Acts of 1845 onwards.

These awards, says Mr. Tate, form the best, in many cases the only, sources of accurate information about the distribution of land ownership in the villages of a century and a half ago; they are full of useful information with regard to types of tenure. In half the villages of the Midlands they serve as ultimate title-deeds to the greater part of the land, and they are, among many other things, the final authority for information as to the course and breadth of highways and the existence of footpaths and rights of way. They specify allotments of land for public purposes, which are the origins of the greater part of what land still remains vested in such minor local governing bodies as parish meetings and parish councils.

TWO GOLFING DREAMS

By BERNARD DARWIN

I HAVE often wished I knew my Omar Khayyám better. I do, of course, know, as everybody else does, the things that everybody quotes: "The moving finger," "Doctor and saint," "A jug of wine, a loaf of bread and thou." But I feel a considerable contempt for my own scanty knowledge, much as I should for somebody whose only knowledge of *Pickwick* was "You mustn't tell us what the soldier said." It is emphatically neither extensive nor peculiar.

The reason that I am lamenting the lost years, for I think it is a poem that people come to know best and learn and love most easily when they are young, is that I have just been reading Sir John Hammerton's pleasant parody or imitation of it which Mr. D. L. Gilchik has illustrated (*The Rubaiyat of a Golfer*; COUNTRY LIFE, 6s.). It has both pleased and amused me, and I hope I do appreciate it, but there may be things hidden from me; something in the precise catching of the spirit of the original that I may have missed.

* * *

Sir John says that his verses were mostly written between wars, and that he owes their publication to a friend who was not a golfer but a poet. This friend thought that the verses had caught the melancholy of Omar, since they left him with a feeling of sorrow for golfers. I venture respectfully to think that the friend was right.

There is here a sense of dreams frustrated and hope always springing up again, of the gentle sadness that constantly afflicts the golfer;

of the yearnings for the might-have-been that are the unvarying corollary of nearly every round he plays. How jocund does he set out to the tee; how miserable he often returns to the club-house, and yet how inevitably he comes back next day filled with the hope, nay with the almost certain knowledge, that he has discovered the secret in the watches of the night. Let me quote one of Sir John's most poignant stanzas:

*The ball no question makes of heels or toes,
But straight or crook'd, as swipes the player,
goes—
While he who pull'd or sliced it from the tee
Thinks he knows how he did it—thinks he
KNOWS.*

In those two words "how" and "thinks" lies the eternal irony of golf. We do think we know how we did it and perhaps for a flash we actually do know, and yet it cannot be denied that shortly afterwards what appears to be an exact repetition of the same actions produces an exactly opposite result.

Two or three stanzas later Sir John breaks to us what is the melancholy fact:

*So simple is the Truth few will admit it—
In all the Guides to Golf no one has writ it—
Though it may be compressed into a phrase
That's brief but pregnant: "There's the Ball,
now hit it!"*

That is no doubt broadly and dreadfully true, but I must deny that "no one has writ it." Sir Walter Simpson, whom I have often quoted

in these pages, writ it more than fifty years ago. "There is, I repeat, a categorical imperative in golf—'Hit the ball'; but there are no minor absolutes." Yes, Sir Walter did write it, but there is this difference between him and Sir John. In one mood he was the cynical philosopher; but in another mood, in the same book, he was an elaborate teacher with diagrams as to where the feet should be placed, and so on. Sir John, on the other hand, maintains his attitude of gentle cynicism throughout:—

*And he who thinks he knows how this does
that,
Or that does this, is talking through his hat.*

Such is the burden of his song, and yet he does not make the reader unhappy or despairing. After all, most of us who have played golf for some time do know in our heart of hearts that we "never are but always to be blessed," and yet it does not stop us hoping and theorising, much less playing. We feel perfectly sure we are fools, but, like the little boy in *Punch* who was made sick by smoking, we "like the feeling." So we can enjoy Sir John Hammerton's verses without being in the least depressed, and that, I imagine, was his hope in writing them.

* * *

And now if I had been feeling at all depressed or frustrated something has happened which would infallibly have cheered me up again. I was actually reading this golfing *Rubaiyat* when the telephone bell interrupted me, and there came a message from Mr. Halford Hewitt that the competition for the Cup that

bears his name would be played again at Deal from April 18 to 20 next year.

That really is cheering news, for here will be the last of the meetings, which so many people thought of and yearned for during the war years, be restored to being. In October the Worpleston Foursome burst into life again; in January there will, please heaven, be the President's Putter, and now the Halford Hewitt Cup in April will make of it what Mr. Peggotty called a "merry-go-round." For many golfers those are three meetings of the year which perfectly combine friendliness with good, hard, exciting golf, and I hope the town of Deal will once more hang out its flags across its pretty, winding streets to welcome the cohorts of Old Boys.

There will be some sad gaps—that is inevitable, and I suppose in the course of eight years some stalwart warriors will have grown a little old and may not relish the notion of

starting at eight o'clock or even before it on a bitter morning. Yet on the whole I think we may hope to see a good many of the old faces. I have been going through in my head the last victorious Carthusian side, and there will indeed be one gap there, for Dale Bourn was killed in the war, and he was the very incarnation of the spirit that pulled his side through to victory when all seemed lost.

But there are other names that still sound stirring: Weare and Prain, Morrison and Longhurst, Beck, Sanderson, Thompson, Middleton—well, some of them will undeniably be not so young as they were, but they will take some beating yet, I fancy. Then there will be Harrow, with Crawley, Walker, Gray, Oppenheimer and others of their old guard. I wish I could be more hopeful about my own Eton, but perhaps we have produced some champions in embryo during those eight years. Winchester always

had the reputation—this was in the nature of a hardy annual joke—of choosing their team for next year as soon as they had lost this year, and I expect they are hard at it already. I do hope the Scotsmen will come south again. And so I might go on and grow perhaps exceedingly tiresome.

I have not seen Deal yet since the war, but I am told that the course is in very good trim. In case the wind blows, shrewdly I have my eye on a snug little sandy cavern which has sheltered me before now and gives an admirable view of the fourth hole, that reborn Sardy Parlour which is as interesting a short hole as anybody can want to watch.

Already I can see in my mind's eye the founder of the feast looking in agony through the big plate-glass window and waiting for news of his "boys." It ought to be "Paradise enow."

SUBSTITUTES FOR GIN TRAPS

SIR,—The frequent recurrence of protests against the use of gin traps for taking rabbits is a very clear indication that the time is ripe for a change. The R.S.P.C.A. and the Equine Defence League have both fostered competitions to elicit a substitute, but apparently without success, owing, it would appear to the writer, to setting too high a standard of efficiency, and with proportionately less regard for the cruelty that will go on until the perfect trap is evolved.

Is there no way of demonstrating the most effective of the substitutes suggested and of giving the question such wide publicity as to provoke, if not a change in the law, an incentive for a wider search for an even better contrivance? I hardly think that patentees, if such there be, would raise objection to the making of demonstration samples.—JOHN A. WILSON, Kilkhampton, Cornwall.

A MARIE-ANTOINETTE BED IN ENGLAND?

SIR,—The curator of the Palace of Versailles recently told me that he believed that much of the original furniture from Versailles had come into English hands, either at the dispersal of the French royal collections or since, and was now in private possession. If any of this furniture in England included Marie-Antoinette's bed, he and his staff would be particularly interested to see a photograph of it, as they have no idea what Marie-

Antoinette's bed, either at Versailles or at Trianon, was like.

If any of your readers could give me any information about any bed of Marie-Antoinette in England (or other furniture known to have come from Versailles), particularly if photographs are available, I should be most grateful and would pass the information on to Versailles.—ANTHONY DALE, 46, Sussex Square, Brighton, Sussex.

A HERCULEANUM PUNCH BOWL

SIR,—In connection with the recent account of Court of Hill, Shropshire (October 18), you may like to record this notable punch bowl preserved in the house. It was made at the Herculeanum pottery, Liverpool, established in 1793 and working till 1833. The bowl, decorated with a blue transfer landscape of romantic Gothic chinoiserie, measures 29 ins. diameter, with a circumference of 90½ ins. and a height of 14 ins. It stood for many years in the St. Paul's Hotel, Liverpool, the property of Messrs. Samuel Allsop.

This hotel was purchased by the Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway from Messrs. Allsop in May, 1911. After this the bowl stood in the Board Room of the Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway Co. at Hunts Bank, Manchester, and the directors are reputed to have drunk punch from it at their first dinner there. On the amalgamation of the Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway with the London and North Western Railway in 1923 the bowl was presented to Mr. E. B. Fichden, M.P., who was at that time



A PUNCH BOWL MADE AT THE HERCULEANUM POTTERY, LIVERPOOL, WITH BLUE TRANSFER LANDSCAPE DECORATION. (Below) A DETAIL OF THE INTERIOR

See letter: A Herculeanum Punch Bowl

chairman of the Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway. It was then removed to Andover and in 1926 to Court of Hill, Shropshire.—CURIOUS CROWE.

AN ALBINO OYSTER-CATCHER

SIR,—Records of albinism in sparrows, blackbirds, and members of the swallow family are fairly common, but other species are just as likely to be affected.

Not long ago a pure white oyster-catcher used to visit a small bay in Northern Ireland. This bird, normal in other respects, remained on that stretch of sandy shore throughout the summer, generally feeding apart from the gulls and other waders present.—H. R. GRIGGS, 27, Jubilee Avenue, Rushington, Sussex.

FOUNTAINS ABBEY

SIR,—I have followed the Fountains Abbey correspondence in your paper with great interest, and as several serious misapprehensions appear to have arisen, I hope you will allow me to attempt to correct them, particularly since it is not the policy of the Committee negotiating for the Abbey to intervene in such controversies.

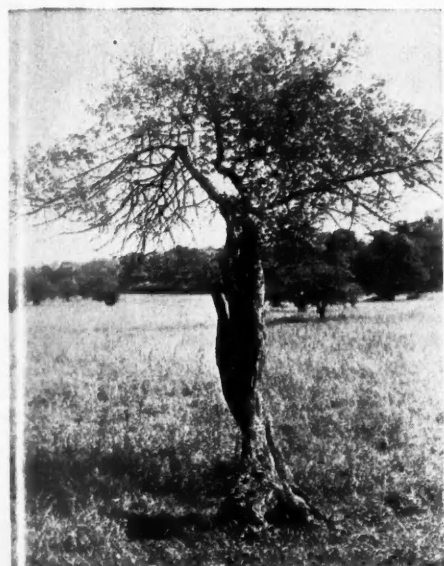
Firstly, Sir Giles Gilbert Scott is not the architect appointed to reconstitute the Abbey buildings. He is an ordinary member of a Committee that is most fortunate in having the benefit not only of his great talents and prestige, but also of his critical advice and considered support. The architects appointed are Sir William Milner, Bt., and Mr. Romilly Craze, F.R.I.B.A., of Messrs. Milner and Craze, and I think it will be agreed that as they hold a position of considerable esteem as ecclesiastical architects, they would be unlikely to lend their names to an act of vandalism which would prejudice their reputation. And, for the sake of the contentious, may I add that they are, neither of them, Roman Catholics.

Secondly, a shrine or place of pilgrimage connotes, except to the pagan, some appreciation of the Deity and of prayer. On the seven hundredth anniversary of its foundation the whole Abbey was extensively floodlit. It probably looked more gracious and "scenic" than ever before, but this did not prevent a party that evening from playing a gramophone on the altar steps and dancing to it in the nave of the Abbey. I am doubtful whether such people regard Fountains as a shrine or even as an undenominational shrine. On the other hand, if by the grace of God Fountains is restored by the English-speaking nations (and to restore it to its original vocation as a place of worship may well prove to be the only way of preserving its beauty for future generations) then intercessions will be made daily at one of its twenty-seven altars, not only for Catholics but for those of all races, and all colours, and all creeds, who gave their lives in the two great wars.—SIR ION ELWES, 31, Grove End Road, N.W.1.

[The only opposition to the Fountains proposals with which we are concerned comes neither from pagans nor from those who wish to dance in the nave. It comes chiefly from those who advise the Society for the Preservation of Ancient Buildings, and from other architectural experts, who are united in the conviction that restoration will destroy the beauty and authenticity of the building. We do not accept Mr. Elwes's statement that restoration "may well prove to be the only way of preserving its beauty," and we would suggest that his final argument, although we respect it, would apply equally well to a church built elsewhere.]

We have freely given space in this correspondence to those who wished to put the Roman Catholic case, although it has ranged far beyond our original argument against





THREE-QUARTERS GONE, BUT STILL ALIVE: A SALCEY FOREST TREE

See letter: *An Old Tree*

restoration, and we regret that we cannot permit further discussion on the lines. We shall, however, welcome further evidence from those qualified to discuss the architectural aspect of the restoration proposals.—ED.]

THE FIRST CANAL

SIR—With reference to the letter about the first canal (October 11), I should like to advance the claim of the Fosse-Dyke canal at Lincoln, which was built by the Romans during their occupation of our country and carried goods from the tidal river Trent at Torksey (Lincolnshire) to Lincoln at Brayford pool. It is still in use to-day, maintained by the owners, a striking credit to Roman engineering.—F. O. BECKETT, 187, Thorold Road, Ilford, Essex.

STRIPPING PINWOOD PANELLING

SIR—The mention by Professor A. P. Laurie, in his most valuable and instructive article on picture cleaning (November 29), of the removal of dirty varnish and repaintings by means of a solvent calls to mind the use of solvents of another kind and for another purpose. I refer to the pickling of paint from woodwork, and I would like to take this opportunity to say a word about the practice, popular now for a number of years, of removing old paint from ancient pinewood panelling and joinery. The practice has even gone so far as stripping and leaving bare antique pinewood furniture. Pinewood wainscotting, with its knots, was never originally intended to be left bare. It was invariably painted, in early Georgian times in buff and brown and deep shades of blue and green, and later on in pale colours and white. The pleasant, soft surface produced by many successive layers of paint applied in the course of several generations cannot be reproduced when once it has been removed. Only in exceptional cases, when very fine carving is encumbered with paint, ought stripping ever properly to be undertaken.

The fashion for pickling was started some forty years ago, when the first pine-panelled rooms erected at the Victoria and Albert Museum were stripped of their old paint in order to reveal the carved details to students. It was realised by the Museum, after a time, that its purpose in stripping the rooms was misunderstood, and that in spite of explanatory labels its example was being followed all over the country. The rooms at the Museum were therefore repainted—but too late, and the stripping of Georgian pine panelling and woodwork, historically incorrect, still goes on.—H. CLIFFORD SMITH, 25, Campden House, Campden Hill, W.8.

AN OLD TREE

SIR—Students of botany are aware that the sap-carrying tissues of a tree lie just beneath the bark, and the enclosed photograph of an old tree in Salcey Forest, near Northampton, illustrates this very well. Although all that remains of the tree is a portion, no more than a quarter, of the original circumference, it is still alive. The foliage bears witness that, although the hard centre wood may be rotted away, the sap-bearing tissues remain attached to the bark and carry the sap from the roots to leaves.—W. S. GARTH, 38, Kenilworth Road, Luton, Bedfordshire.

THE CEMETERY AT HONG-KONG

SIR—The photographs published in your issue of November 22 of views of the cemetery at Stanley, Hong-Kong, have a special interest for one who was interned by the Japanese at Stanley.

Death laid a hand not too lightly on that imprisoned community, and God's acre there became the premature permanent resting-place of many of our men, women and children.

This little cemetery, which came into being about a century ago, when the island of Victoria was first occupied by our troops, is in a beautiful setting close by the sea, and a few of the recent internees, with devoted care, kept it in perfect order. Tombstones, including the one illustrated on November

22, were laboriously hewn and engraved by some of the male internees, and erected over each grave. The spot was a beautiful, peaceful oasis in a camp of crudity and sordidness, and it is to be hoped that with the passage of time it will not suffer from neglect.—E. C. BELBIN, *The Lodge, Harrow Park, Harrow-on-the-Hill, Middlesex.*

OXEN FOR RIDING

SIR—In connection with recent letters about the use of oxen for riding, the late Sir Francis Galton, who in his youth was a great explorer, in his account of his trip to Damaraland in 1851 (*Travels in South Africa*, 4th edition, 1891, Ward, Lock & Co.) frequently mentions the oxen that he regularly rode himself and also those ridden by his companions.

On page 185 is a full-page drawing of a Hottentot mounted on an ox—a big beast with wickedly sharp-looking horns.

This animal is complete with saddle, stirrups, blanket, etc., but has no bridle and was guided by two reins attached to a plug through the cartilage of its nose.—E. EARLE (Lt.-Col.), *The Cottage, Frensham, Surrey.*

THE BROCKEN SPECTRE

SIR—With reference to recent correspondence in COUNTRY LIFE about the Brocken Spectre, I have quite often seen this phenomenon. On several occasions I had a companion with me, and though we did not deliberately test the matter, I do not think we ever saw anything more than our own single shadow

within the circles. On one occasion a photograph was taken while we stood side by side. This shows only a single figure, and is very similar to the one by Mr. W. Kersley Holmes reproduced in COUNTRY LIFE of October 18.

Where rainbows are concerned, the camera and the human eye alike necessarily record only the impression of which each is the focal centre, for rainbows are not tangible things existing where the eye seems to see them, but effects of light brought into being through the agency of the eye itself or the lens as the case may be.—JAMES COWAN, *Kincraig, Glasgow Road, Milngavie, Dunbartonshire.*

ON STRIDING EDGE

SIR—The theory that the Brocken Spectre is a private apparition is



THE COTTER'S SATURDAY NIGHT

See letter: *A Burns Sideboard*

borne out by an experience of mine. In September, 1923, I was on Striding Edge, Westmorland, in a fog with two friends. Each of us saw his own image surrounded by a rainbow halo; none of us could see the others'. Though I have been very near the Brocken, I have never seen anything like it before or since. It is odd that this phenomenon seems to occur on Helvellyn so much oftener than anywhere else.—F. RENFIELD, 287, Hills Road, Cambridge.

A BURNS SIDEBOARD

SIR—The approach of Burns Night prompts me to send you the enclosed photographs of a black oak sideboard 6 ft. 6 ins. in height by 4 ft. 6 ins. in width, made for the Burns family. When and where it was made I have not been able to discover. It was bought at an auction in Edinburgh and brought to London over 50 years ago by a Dr. Masterman, and when he died some years ago it was put up for auction again and bought by me.

The carving is exquisite and depicts various Burns themes. On the top of the sideboard are "The Two Dogs," with the legend "Two dogs that werna thrang at hame foregathered once upon a time," and below stand the figures of Burns on the one side and Highland Mary on the other. The four panels represent four of Burns's poems—*Souler Johnnie* (top left), *The Cotter's Saturday Night*, showing Burns's father reading from the Scripture (top right, depicted in detail in the smaller photograph), *Ode to the Toothache*—"hell o' a' diseases"—(bottom left), and *The Vision*, showing the Muse from Heaven taking the laurel crown from her head and putting it on Burns's head.—S. BURNS (Mrs.), *Ashcroft, Old Southgate, N.14.*

SLINGING IN WEST AFRICA

SIR—With reference to the letters on the subject *How Do You Sling?* your correspondents may be interested to know how they do it in West Africa. Slings here is universal among the natives and is used almost solely to



OAK SIDEBOARD WITH REPRESENTATIONS IN CARVING OF BURNS'S POEMS

See letter: *A Burns Sideboard*

drive birds off the rice farms. The slinger is stationed on a platform of stout sticks raised about 7 ft. off the ground. A small palm-leaf shelter is erected on the platform to shade him from the sun when he is not engaged in throwing.

The sling is made from twisted palm-leaf fibre, a strong and durable material. The pocket is meshed fairly close. The string is in one piece and interwoven in the middle with the mesh of the pocket down the centre of the latter from end to end. One of the strings thus formed has a loop at the free end which fits loosely round the distal joint of the index finger. The corresponding end of the other string just has a single knot which is held between the thumb and index finger. The length of the string varies to suit the individual. Personally I like my strings 2 ft. 6 ins. The pocket is about 5 ins. by 2½ ins., and should be of a depth in the centre to take about half the stone. The fibre cord from which the sling is made should not be too stout, since you cannot then "feel" your stone, by which I mean that the sensation of weight at the end of the sling is dulled if the cord is too heavy.

If you are slinging with the right hand, the left, which holds the pocket enclosing the stone, is, with the slinger's



COOLIES CARRYING ROCKS IN COCHIN

See letter: Limit in Head-loads

left side facing almost forward, held in much the same line but more to the left, the strings stretching diagonally above the head to the right hand. The left leg is forward. I find two circles of the sling the best. The second circle is carried well down so that at the moment of release the stone is about on a level with the right knee. The cast is thus rather underhand, giving a good trajectory. The right arm finishes across the body. A more horizontal trajectory is obtained by well flexing the left knee. A good throw is accompanied by a good twang or a sharp crack.

I use a sling for putting up duck from the water, since they are often far out. Once up they usually circle round and you get your chance. I learnt to sling from either side, and it is distinctly useful, as you may have some obstacle on one hand.

Needless to say, good slinging depends on proper stance, proper length and weight of the sling, the right size and weight of the stone (which should be fairly round and smooth) and accurate timing. At first you will forget to loose one string, but the result will soon improve your memory!—E. S. WALLS (Dr.), *Sierra Leone, West Africa.*

OLD BARN

SIR,—In recent correspondence about old barns I expected to see some refer-



THE 13th-CENTURY BARN AT S. PIERRE SUR DIVES, NORMANDY

See letter: Old Barns

ence to the great barn at S. Pierre sur Dives, Normandy, surely the largest in existence, which is depicted in the enclosed sketch. It was built in the thirteenth century, presumably by the English. It is not, I believe, as large as the Halle at Dives (Calvados), but that is not a barn but a market-hall with open sides.—CHRISTOPHER HUGHES, 35, *Kingsbury Street, Marlborough, Wiltshire.*

AN INDIAN JUNGLE TRIBE

SIR,—Having been born and bred in India and lived there most of my life, I was interested to see the photographs in *COUNTRY LIFE* of October 8 of an Indian jungle tribe. The snake in the picture is not a cobra but the very common rock python, and the tribe seems to be the Labhane or else the Kanjar.

The natives are generally ignorant about the habits of these gypsy tribes and frightened of them; hence a lot of silly rumours persist. My husband was a police officer for many years, and assures me that stories of cannibalism among them are sheer nonsense.—D. P. TURNER, *Avon Bank, Avon Castle Estate, Ringwood, Hampshire.*

LIMIT IN HEAD-LOADS

SIR,—In the State of Cochin draught animals do not thrive, and in consequence all materials have to be carried on the heads of coolies or pushed in hand barrows, an operation which is carried out to the accompaniment of plaintive songs. This scene surely represents about the limit in head-loads. The coolies are moving on their heads great rocks used in road-building on Willingdon Island, Cochin.—DOUGLAS DICKINS, 19, *Lambolde Road, Hampstead, N.W.3.*

RIVER SCENE ARTIST

SIR,—May I comment on your note (*Collectors' Questions*, November 8) on the drawing of Old London Bridge by my grandfather, E. W. Cooke, R.A., (1811-1880)?

Between the years 1826 and 1833 E. W. Cooke did a series of pencil sketches showing the progress of construction of the new bridge. There were some seventy drawings in all, some of them in the greatest detail, even showing the chisel marks on the stones.

These were mounted in an album, and the detailed index is in his own handwriting. It is still in my possession. From this album came the drawings that were presented to the Lord Mayor, Sir David Salaman.

In 1833 E. W. Cooke made and published a set of 12 engravings (size 14½ x 10) from the drawings, together with a detailed account of the building of the bridge and of its history. From this we learn that the first pile was driven during March, 1824, and the first coffer dam completed in April of that year. A large platform

to accommodate 2,000 people was erected on the latter, and the foundation stone was laid on June 15 by the Duke of York. The bridge was opened to traffic on August 1, 1831, so that not much demolition could have taken place before that date.

The building of the coffer dams



A WASPS' NEST SUSPENDED FROM THE ROOF OF A BIRDS' NESTING-BOX

See letter: A Wasps' Nest in a Bird-box

caused great obstruction to the waterway, so in 1826 the fifth pier on the Southwark side was dismantled and a wide temporary wooden span constructed in place of the two narrow arches. This temporary span is not shown in the drawing you published, so it must have been made in 1825 or early in 1826, when Cooke was not more than fifteen years of age.

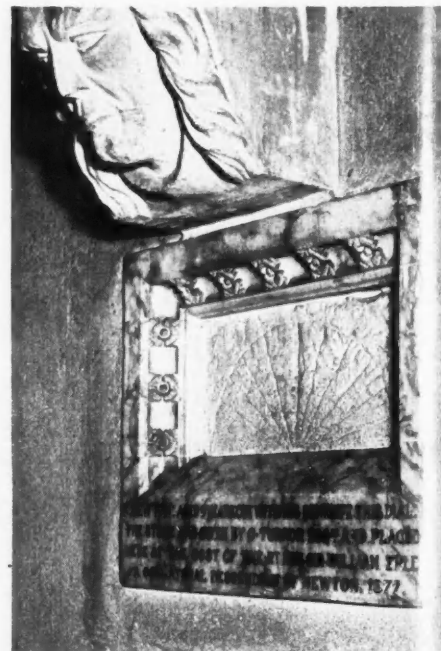
His first attempts at oil painting were a good deal earlier than 1832;

I have in my possession the Sign of the Old Ship Inn at Brighton, a large wooden panel of an East Indian in full sail, painted by him in 1825.

This was said to be his first painting in oils. The sign hung at the Old Ship Inn for a number of years, and was given back to the artist in 1864 when he became an R.A.—C. A. COOKE, *Broad Reach, Hamble, Hampshire.*

A NEWTON SUNDIAL

SIR,—Sir Isaac Newton, at the age of nine, carved with his penknife the stone sundial illustrated in my photograph. It is now set in the wall of the church where he was baptised at Colsterworth, Lincolnshire, just off the Great North Road. As the dial is placed in a small space little more than a couple of feet wide behind the organ, it will be overlooked by the casual visitor.—E. RICHARDSON, 27, *Villiers Road, West Bridgford, Nottingham.*



NEWTON'S SUNDIAL AT COLSTERWORTH, LINCOLNSHIRE

See letter: A Newton Sundial

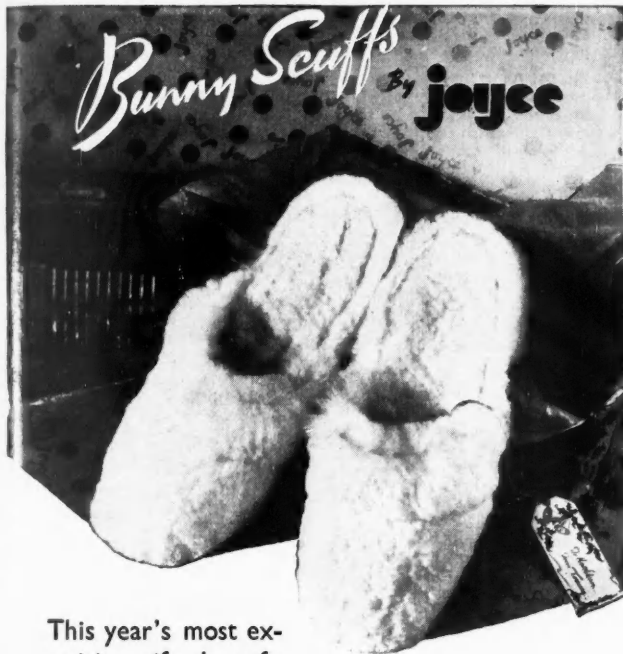
A WASPS' NEST IN A BIRD-BOX

SIR,—During the autumn, when clearing out and refixing birds' nest-boxes, a friend was much surprised to observe wasps entering and leaving one of them by the entrance hole. It was one of those three-floor boxes that were much in vogue some time ago, and the wasps were entering the top storey. Upon inspection a wonderful little spherical nest, about three inches in diameter, was discovered. It was hanging from the roof, and on account, I suppose, of the complete protection that the bird-box offered from wind and weather, was the most perfect of the kind I have ever seen.

The roof of the box had to be removed to obtain the photograph, and the wasps stupefied. The great difficulty with which I had to contend while taking the photograph was, however, that red ants would continually come out from the orifice and try to drag away the drowsy wasp that I had posed there to give scale to the nest! Birds, wasps, ants, all in one nest-box; perhaps the three-storey idea is a good one after all. But what were those ants doing in such a place, I wonder.—WALTER J. C. MURRAY, *Murray's School, Horam, East Sussex.*

THE TALLEST MAYPOLE

SIR,—The claim (November 22) that the 70-ft. maypole at Welford-on-Avon is the highest in the country seems to me to be incorrect, for the maypole at Pagan Hill, Stroud, near my cottage, exceeds 80 ft. in height from the ground.—E. J. NEVEILL, 10, *Puckshole, Pagan Hill, Stroud, Gloucestershire.*



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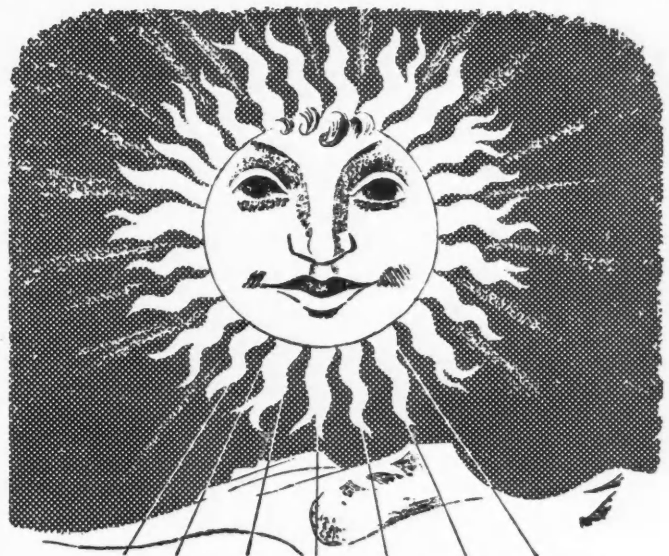
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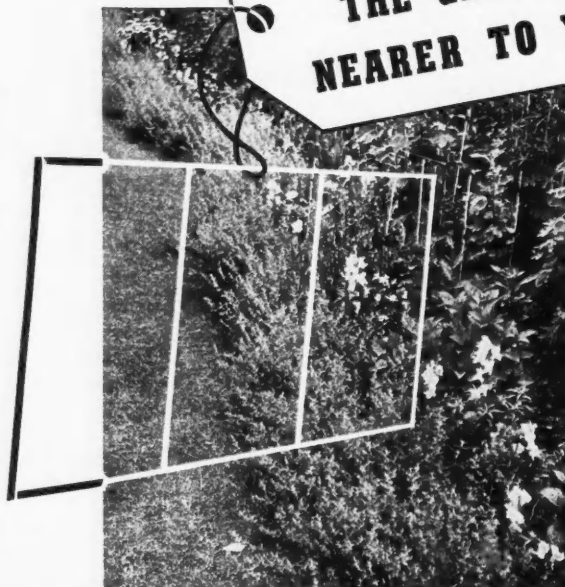
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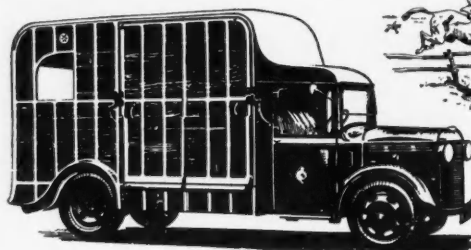


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FIVE CENTURIES OF FRENCH PAINTING

By DENYS SUTTON

WE so often hear the French described as a nation of cynics. But are they? If to see life clearly, to call a spade a spade, is cynicism, then I suppose they are. What in any case distinguishes their painting is a remarkable ability to render an exact statement of whatever aspect of visual appearances tempts them. They see clearly and know their *métier*. Thus, they constantly abstain from entering certain provinces of painting in which they feel they will not succeed. They rarely, if ever, attain El Greco's degree of ecstatic revelation or the beatific simplicity of Fra Angelico. They do not rise to the monumental sublimity of Michelangelo or the monumental serenity of Raphael. They prefer to keep to the more earthly, more human departments of painting: they restrict themselves to man and his surroundings. They are the painters of ordinary everyday life, but with a difference. They recognise that even the ordinary is unique. They do not depict the interiors of their contemporaries with the meticulous fidelity of the Dutch 17th-century painters. On the contrary, they fasten on those aspects of life which contain something of their own sense of enjoyment and which demand solution in pictorial terms. They paint the exquisite moments of sensuous enjoyment, the point of light on snow, the movement of light on water, the relationships between colours, the afternoon sun. Yet even in their appreciation of the sensuous there is present, as in Watteau, a recognition that life is transitory, that we should enjoy it while we can. They subscribe, perhaps, to Voltaire's dictum of cultivating one's own garden. And what a garden they have to cultivate, as we see it in Monet's painting of his garden at Vetheuil, shown in the exhibition at Gimpel Fils in Duke Street, Grosvenor Square, W., covering five centuries of French painting.

At its best, French painting is a triumphant consummation of spontaneity with science: the first reaction to a motif is tempered with a knowledge of what is or is not practical. Even in a period commonly associated with academic precision, the natural desire to infuse warmth and humanity into their painting breaks through. In this exhibition, Poussin's *Self Portrait* is an



JEAN BAPTISTE GREUZE. PORTRAIT OF Mlle. CLAIRON

indication of how a painter of classical temperament can attain a degree of subjectivity which his own precepts might tend to deny. He is unable to suppress his inborn sense of movement and excitement. With Poussin, as so often in French painting, appears that sense of a tradition adjusted to new circumstances and translated into terms of a different era and a different medium of approach; here, too, is that sense of surprise. What, indeed, could be more surprising than that a painter so typical of the Grand Manner as Lebrun should paint the celebrated portrait of the Chancellor Seguier in the Louvre? We are dumbfounded because this picture is

means, is not altogether surprising: in any case, it is only half the story. Yet, what verve, what delicate understanding of their medium, the *petits maîtres* possessed. The smallest sketch of Moreau le jeune, or even of Eisen, palpitates with life, with wit, with vivacity. But they were more than endless chroniclers of *Liaisons Dangereuses*. They were painters who took their art seriously. Even so didactic an artist as Greuze with his saccharine epitaphs on fallen virtue, could paint such crisp, fresh portraits as his head of Mlle. Clairon in this exhibition or observe psychology with a touch that anticipates Géricault and the Romantics. The eighteenth century is paradoxical indeed: how Romantic are so many of its painters. Did not Watteau revive that sense of community between man and his natural surroundings which had almost disappeared since the Venetians of the Renaissance, and which was to form so cardinal a point in the Romantic programme? Does not Desportes's landscape in the Musée de Compiègne lead straight on to Corot, to Corot of the clear naturalism of his *Les Toits* shown at Gimpel Fils?

In their painting, the French do not waste time with inessentials: they go straight to the heart of the matter. They pursue their quarry with relentless determination. How right it is



(Right)
EDGAR
DEGAS.
PORTRAIT
OF Mlle.
ROUART

(Left)
NICHOLAS
POUSSIN.
SELF-
PORTRAIT,
PAINTED IN
1649

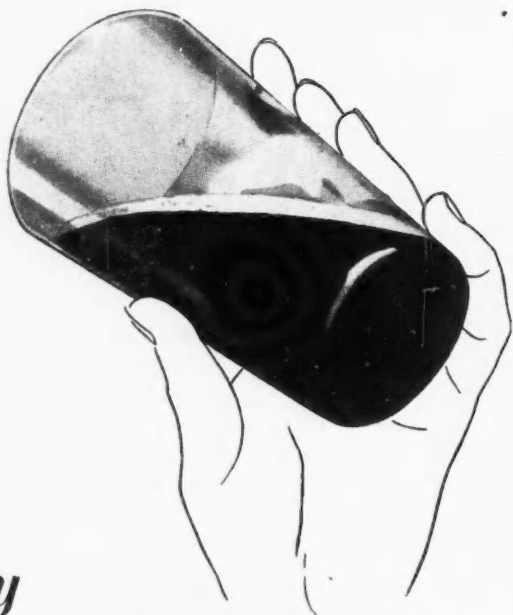


quite the contrary to almost all the rest of his work.

The love of paradox has never failed to find supporters in France, as the astute author of the *Lettres Persanes* was quick to observe. This paradoxical attitude is particularly apparent in the painting of the eighteenth century, which is usually dismissed as licentious and boring. That many of the painters of this era found pleasing themes in an exploration of the boudoir few would choose to deny. But the depiction of the gallantry of a century which practised what it preached, the pursuit of happiness by practical as well as philosophic

that they should have been the main exponents of Impressionism, that logical development of the reactions of the eye to light and shade; how right that they should have rebelled against it. They have the ability of being able to start again when they feel that a style, a method of approach, is no longer valid, yet at the same time the taste to preserve all that is best from the past. Chardin and Braque, for instance, are linked by their determination to solve a problem which loses nothing through longevity: how to paint still life in a way which is fresh and subtle.

It is perhaps their desire for novelty and their courage which give them their vitality and resilience. They have that precious gift of being able to attract fresh blood, fresh ideas to their country, and of transforming the currents of the moment into painting that is universal and entirely their own. They have, too, that most precious of gifts: a passionate desire to unravel the pattern in a situation or an experience.



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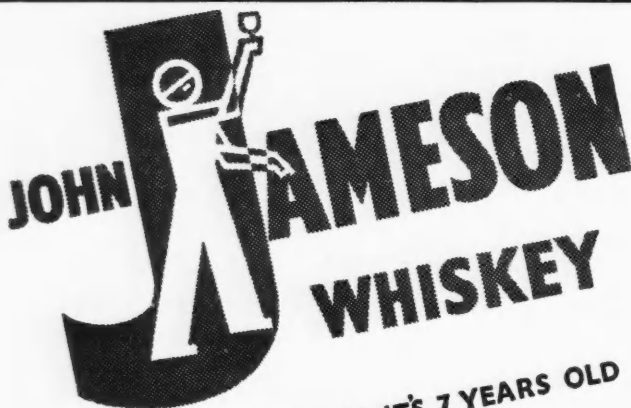
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NEW BOOKS

THE PASQUIERS AGAIN

Reviews by **HOWARD SPRING**

M GEORGES DUHAMEL has been writing for years about the Pasquier family. He began a long time before the recent war broke out, and there are now ten novels portraying the fortunes of this celebrated clan: that is one more than Galsworthy wrote about the Forsytes. There is a difference in the method of approach, for whereas the Forsytes are rich when we first meet them, the Pasquiers are as poor as poor can be. Furthermore, though Soames became a famous collector of pictures and here and there a person of artistic sensibility impinges from without upon the family, the Forsytes never

of the Forsyte books showed the shattering impact of beauty upon prosaic life. In *Suzanne and the Young Men*, Duhamel has done something more subtle and difficult: he has shown how two sorts of beauty—two "aspects of reality" as Suzanne reflects—can be at war with one another.

The Baudoins lived in the country. Philippe was a painter who loved to make paintings and drawings of Suzanne. She went to stay with them in a moment of pique at being passed over for a part. She met Philippe's father, who was blind, and a philosopher, and altogether a dear, and his

SUZANNE AND JOSEPH PASQUIER. By Georges Duhamel
(Dent, 10s. 6d.)

THE DIARY OF A NOBODY. By George and Weedon Grossmith
(Pan Books, 4s. 6d.)

PERSUASION. By Jane Austen
(Avalon Press, 10s. 6d.)

developed an artist from within. With the Pasquiers, the artistic urge is profound. Cecile became a world-famous pianist, Suzanne an actress who made a deep mark on Paris, Laurent a *savant*. Joseph alone became predatory, a financial lion roaring up and down the land, seeking whom he might devour. Even he would have liked to be esteemed a man of culture. Like Soames Forsyte, he was a great collector, and if the books upon art ascribed to him were written by others, at least he was proud to see his name on the title-pages.

TWO NOVELS IN ONE

When the curtain of the occupation closed down on France, one wondered from time to time how M. Duhamel and his Pasquiers were getting on. It now appears that they got on well enough. The author produced his eighth and ninth books about them—*Suzanne et les jeunes hommes* and *La Passion de Joseph Pasquier*. Whether they were published as well as written during the occupation I do not know; but now here they are, two short novels published in one volume called *Suzanne and Joseph Pasquier* (Dent, 10s. 6d.). The translation is by Beatrice de Holthor, and is as notable as her work on the earlier volumes.

The theme of the first of the two books could be outlined as simply as the theme of a short story, and it is that—what is called a "long-short." Suzanne Pasquier is twenty-nine. She is a famous actress. She truly lives only when she is acting. She had "given herself body and soul to the theatre, which was much more beautiful, much fuller and more astonishing than life, and above all more real."

We must seize upon that last word if we are to understand the essence of Suzanne. It was this which determined all she did when she found herself in the astonishing home of the Baudoins. The first—and greatest—

mother, who excelled at music and cooking, his brother Marc who carved in wood, and his brother Hubert who was a botanist. She met sisters and cousins; and all these young people, poor as church mice, were great lovers of life. They played on instruments, and danced and sang and acted. There was an Arcadian beauty and innocence about them all.

LOVE FOR THE STAGE

Suzanne was with them for two summer months. All the young men loved her, but she did not love the young men. She was incapable of loving except when upon the stage. There she could break her heart with the beauty of words. "Why am I not sitting in the shadow of the forests?" she could cry with real anguish; but when she was sitting in the shadow of the forests with the Baudoins, that was not the same thing. Why? Who knows? "Good God! Where then was the shadow of the forests? There, in that cavern, on that ultra-modern stage of compressed galalith, between the flats of sound-proof and fire-proof pasteboard? Yes, there, perhaps, there and nowhere else."

After having promised to stay longer, she broke her word, ran back to her own reality at the first creak of a beckoning finger, and left the young men desolate. That is all, save for a surprising and unexpected *dénouement* which rings as true as a bell.

I have not read all the Pasquier books, but this is the loveliest I have read. It is steeped with the knowledge and love of the countryside, with the beauty of scent and sound and vision. It is all raised to an extraordinary pitch of poetry, so that we seem to be dwelling in the enchanted landscape of some master painter. And from this the second book—*La Passion of Joseph Pasquier*—throws us headlong into the jungle.

Joseph Pasquier was twenty years

older than his sister. We have known him from the beginning as a man with an eye on the main chance. Here he is now, in the years following the 1914-18 war, in full career, crushing, trampling, grasping. The passion of Joseph Pasquier is the passion to possess, and at the opening of this book his possessions are boundless. At the end he is stripped of everything except his possessions, and we are left feeling in our bones that these are dross. "The worst of it is," he cries on the last page, "that I am incapable of living any other way."

That was true. Like Suzanne, he had reached the moment of harvest. He had been sowing for a long time, and now he must reap. Tricked by business associates, deserted by wife and children, diminished in wealth, despoiled by his secretary, turned down by the learned society for whose membership he had pined, he is a sorry figure, too mean for tragedy. And he must go on living like that, if he is to live at all. He must go back to the only world in which he was enfranchised: a world which was "a confused jungle of caverns, precipices, thorn-bushes, lianas, gloomy groves, deserts and stagnant pools. There men fought one another, cheated one another, devoured one another with horrid relish. It was all in the game."

WAR-TIME MEDITATIONS

I can imagine that these two books spring directly out of the author's meditations during the dark night of the occupation. What had come over France—what had come over the world—to bring men to this pass? And in the first of these short books he turns with longing to the thought of man as he might be, showing us in the Baudouin family a picture of sweet association, innocent pleasure, self-sufficing and unambitious industry. And against this he sets the dread picture of acquisitive man, blind as Samson, pulling down the pillars of society about his own ears. Whether intentionally or not, there the two pictures stand: there is the human choice, as beautifully and terribly presented as I have known it for many a year.

A MINOR CLASSIC

It is rather late in the day to say a word for that minor classic, George and Weedon Grossmith's *The Diary of a Nobody*. But a new edition published by Pan Books (4s. 6d.) gives an opportunity, which must not be neglected, to speak up for an old friend. The book has had a strange career. It was first published in 1892 and did not attract much attention. It was twice reprinted in 1894, and then eleven years passed before it was printed again. Then another five years passed, bringing us to 1910, and in that year the book suddenly "looked up." It was printed four times.

It has had its ups and downs since, but nothing, I imagine, can now shift it from its place as a faithful but unfailingly amusing picture of the sort of life that was lived by unambitious and unpretentious people of the "clerk" class towards the end of last century. The illustrations are as delightful as the letterpress.

The book has always had its "fans." In an ancient edition I possess there are "testimonials" from Lord Rosebery, Augustine Birrell, and Hilaire Belloc, and this new reprint is introduced by Sir John Squire, who thinks "that a large area of English social life is painted in this book more faithfully and fully than anywhere

else." Sir John predicts for the book a "perennial popularity among the discriminating," and that echoes the opinion of Birrell, who wrote to the original publisher that by this book, and one other he had published, "your name will be carried far down the River of Time, and may even reach the Sea."

Another reprint to which attention should be called is the Avalon Press edition of Jane Austen's *Persuasion* (10s. 6d.). I do not know whether it is the intention of the publishers to put out all of Jane Austen's novels, but I sincerely trust it is, for this book, with its delicious coloured illustrations (as well as some in black and white) by John Austen, and with its introduction by Edmund Blunden, to say nothing of its agreeable clear type, gives us Jane Austen as royally as she should be given.

I like Mr. Blunden's story of Jane and the Prince Regent. That remarkable man had a set of her novels in each of his residences, and when she asked for leave to dedicate *Emma* to him, he "caused her to be informed that she might dedicate any number of novels to him." That, as Mr. Blunden says, is a princely way of "bestowing a laurel without any ifs and buts."

Well, the present publishers have realised, like the Prince, that Jane Austen deserves to be treated in a large and generous way. The book is a model of appropriate production.

MODERN ART

THE aim of the Central Institute of Art and Design is to produce a series of small volumes giving the salient facts about the painting of different countries and schools. A survey such as that by Dr. Borenius of Italian painting—*Italian Painting and Later Italian Painting* (Avalon, 8s. 6d.)—which was published recently is at once readable and informative: his account was based on a lifetime's knowledge and experience. Their latest publication, *Modern Painting*, by Reginald Brill (Avalon Press, 8s. 6d.), deals with modern art.

Mr. Brill retraces with sympathy the well-worn stages in the history of modern art (by which he means French art), and has a chapter on British painting; he misses, however, the chance of comparing the "Intimists" with their British counterparts, Pasmore and Le Bas, who find no mention in his book. This is only a detail, but the book, which is of an avowedly educative nature, is apt to prove misleading in restricting modern art to France and Britain. It is surely imperative to take into account the significant and exciting Expressionist movement which flourished in Central Europe. Yet even so vital and vigorous a painter as Oscar Kokoschka, who incidentally lives in this country, is passed over. Any account of modern painting is apt to prove controversial in its interpretation of facts, but then the facts must be there.

D. S.

A NOTABLE MISCELLANY

THE *Saturday Book*, edited by Leonard Russell (Hutchinson, 21s.), now in its sixth year, combines the qualities of interest, variety and lightness of touch that most people look for in their Christmas reading. The present issue numbers among its contributors writers as different as Mr. Siegfried Sassoon, Mr. Ritchie Calder and Nathaniel Gubbins, and deals with subjects as diverse as the making of a radio programme, the poetry of Coventry Patmore and table tennis. Especially noteworthy is a series of photographs illustrating the Victorian and Edwardian scenes. The book contains in all some one hundred and thirty pages of illustrations, a large proportion of which are in colour.

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FARMING NOTES

A SUGAR-BEET RECORD

FROM all accounts it seems that Norfolk has a record crop of sugar-beet both in tonnage of roots and sugar yield per acre. All along the roads there are miles of heaped sugar-beet, it being important to get the beet off the land now even if it cannot be cleared straightaway into the factories. Beet well stacked in heaps seems to generate some heat and to ward off the frost damage that occurs so easily when the beet is left in the ground or lying in small heaps on the land. Covering the clamps of beet is rather a difficult problem. If straw is used it is almost impossible to keep some of this from getting mixed with the beet when it is loaded for the factories, and then there is trouble there. However, this risk is probably the lesser of two evils. The factories are dealing with the beet to their full capacity; 2,000 tons a day more than in any previous season are now being sliced at the factories, and they will be kept busy well into February. It may indeed be March before they have digested the whole of this season's beet crop. Ordinarily the factories close down by Christmas. If growers can avoid frost damage to the crops that are awaiting cartage and may have to stay in clamps for several weeks yet, the 1946 beet crop should give a satisfactory financial return. It will—not less important—provide an addition to our home-grown supply of an essential food.

For Buenos Aires

I ENVY Major T. A. Rattray, who is on his way to take up the new post of Agricultural Attaché to the British Embassy in Buenos Aires. We have agricultural representatives now at Washington and Ottawa, and South America should certainly offer an interesting and useful field for a man who can speak with knowledge about our pedigree stock and other developments in British agriculture that are of special interest to the Argentine. I remember meeting Major Rattray in Somerset when he was one of the Ministry's Land Commissioners during the war. Before then he was a Ministry's livestock officer after a spell of farming on his own account. More of these agricultural attachés should be appointed. We certainly need a good man in Denmark and Sweden, with whom we have many farming links. Mr. Miles de Wachenfeldt, who has been the Agricultural Attaché at the Swedish Legation in London for many years, has made many friends for Sweden. He is always ready to arrange for farming visitors to his country to see what would interest them, and there are, I know, many Swedes and Danes who are waiting eagerly for the opportunity to come to this country and see how British agriculture is faring. There are also high hopes of developing a valuable export trade in agricultural machinery to Scandinavia. A man on the spot in Copenhagen or Stockholm could certainly earn his keep by providing information about what we have to sell and also tell us of developments in Scandinavian farming. It would be worth having an Agricultural Attaché in Russia too, but overtures made some time ago met with no response and I doubt whether Moscow would be more forthcoming now.

Machinery Needs

THE N.F.U. have, I am glad to say, been meeting the Agricultural Engineers' Association and they have agreed to set up between them a Consultative Committee which is to discuss the most pressing machinery

needs of the farmer so that first things can be put first. This Committee should also be able to make some practical suggestions to the Ministry of Agriculture for strengthening the work of the Agricultural Development Board. The development of new implements and machinery and their testing goes forward all too slowly in this country. Manufacturers also need better facilities for putting their machines out on farms for everyday work under ordinary conditions so that their work can be closely studied and faults discovered before the new machine is manufactured on a commercial scale. COUNTRY LIFE has made available at Goodings such facilities and during the coming months several new machines will be put through their paces.

Pedigree Stock Exports

LORD BLEDISLOE told the last Council meeting of the Royal Agricultural Society that the New Zealand Government have now, after consultation with farmers' organisations in the Dominion, agreed to admit pedigree stock by direct shipment from this country. Ever since the time when Lord Bledisloe was Governor-General he has persisted in pressing the New Zealand Government to abolish their restrictions on livestock imports from this country. The embargo was intended to safeguard New Zealand stock against foot-and-mouth disease infection, but there was never really any risk of this, as the long sea voyage, coupled with quarantine precautions at this side and in New Zealand, were fully adequate. The cost of sending pedigree stock to New Zealand has been prohibitive. As a first stage they have had to go to Canada for domicile there and then to be shipped on. This has doubled the true value of the cattle and made the whole business impossibly expensive. In the past Australia helped to meet the costs of the shipments by a subsidy. I think this is in abeyance now, but its reintroduction might well be considered, and New Zealand might also follow suit.

Mobile Repair Vans

YORKSHIRE farmer writes to tell me, following my note in COUNTRY LIFE of November 29, that a mobile repair service for farm tractors and machinery has been at work in the Harrogate district for some months now. It is run by two energetic young men who served in R.E.M.E. On receipt of a telephone call they come along to the farm in their fully fitted up workshop, formerly a W.D. repair van, and are able to tackle almost any job at once, whether it be trouble with a tractor, a car, or any farm implement. They also tackle electrical repairs and work on pumps and plumbing. On board the workshop lorry they carry a motorcycle so that if any emergency spares are required one of them can go off at once to get them while the other continues with the dismantling work. Thus little or no time is lost. I mention their enterprise because it can, I am sure, be copied with advantage to other Service men as well as to farmers who do not possess much mechanical skill themselves and need prompt service to keep their tractors and machinery running in good order. All of us have had experience recently of over-age tractors breaking down at busy times and delay in getting them running again. New enterprise that will overcome these troubles is welcome.

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THE ESTATE MARKET

A YEAR OF CONTRASTS—II

TO continue the survey of real estate begun in these columns a fortnight ago, comparatively few farms have been offered in the closing quarter of the year, and bidding for them has not betrayed any lack of confidence in the agricultural outlook. At the same time would-be buyers have been put off by the reports of their expert advisers about the condition of not a few holdings. Deterioration may have occurred owing to want of free capital and the restricted supply of labour and materials, coupled with the veto on new building repairs. Fears have also been expressed about the possible loss of soil fertility through the continuous use of artificial fertilisers. Of immediate definite importance to many farmers, especially the smaller ones, has been the rise of the wages of farm workers and the difficulty of finding for them the standard of housing they now expect.

THE WAGES QUESTION

COMBINATION among farm-workers to secure higher wages had advanced far enough just after the 1914-18 war to obtain statutory recognition of the right to a wage that would comply with "standards of comfort." Specific reference to "the conditions of the agricultural industry" was embodied in an Act of 1940, and the minimum wage of £4 a week may be much exceeded by payment for overtime. The actual cash paid to the worker may be reduced by allowances for a cottage, a free supply of milk, and, perhaps, other things. As wages rise the rents of cottages may be raised, and an understanding may be reached as to the farmer's liability to pay wages to a worker who is suffering a prolonged illness.

Whether the industry can stand the increased costs depends, of course, on how much the farm can produce and at what price the produce can be marketed. Everything points to the fullest maintenance of the demand for home-grown produce, and there is no probability of price reduction in the next year or two. The market value of good farms, especially those of large extent, is likely to be steady and improving. Investing corporations have come to this conclusion, and have competed with one another, and with the farmer, in taking large acreages off the market before auctions could be held.

STABILITY OF REAL ESTATE

THE lowering of interest rates to a new ebb has gone on concurrently with the fall in the purchasing power of the £. These and other factors have made the oft-praised permanence and stability of real property more than ever attractive to persons with what may be called idle money, who are less concerned to secure a property at a rock-bottom figure than to place some of their funds in something that they know can never be manipulated towards vanishing point and may at the same time give a great deal of pleasure. Motoring after a long spell of difficulty, promises to become easier, and the enjoyment of a country house is thereby likely to be enhanced. If the average prices of really delightful houses in a few acres are expressed in terms of current interest the tenure of them may be regarded as economical, as well as pleasurable and dignified. Whatever the property he has bought, the buyer will be well advised to take no time in taking possession of it, for nowadays if a house is vacant for a few days the buyer may find its front door adorned with a notice that the local authority contemplates using it for the installation of a number of candidates for accommodation.

INTERFERENCE WITH CONTRACT

IN 1883, in connection with the passing of the Agricultural Holdings Act, a remarkable prophecy was made by Lord Lyndhurst: "State interference as applied to the regulation of contracts and of rent appears to be the tendency of modern legislation. It is of all inroads upon the theory of sound politics and political economy the most vicious and objectionable, for it destroys at once the enterprise of the landlord and the self-reliance of the tenant; moreover it is in its very essence incapable of finality, and nothing can be more unsatisfactory than that the basis of property should be constantly, and, in accordance with the popular pressure of the moment, arbitrarily shifted."

Many aspects of the ownership and tenancy of real estate this present year endorse the opinion thus expressed. There is the interminable continuation of the Rent Restriction Acts, and (another exceedingly objectionable matter) the transference of requisitioned property from one authority to another, in some instances without the owner's knowledge, after the primary war-time purpose of the requisitioning has ceased. The refusal to fulfil legal or moral obligations to surrender war-time tenancies to the lawful owners of property is giving the Court of Appeal heavy work in reviewing the County Court Judges' rulings as to the rights of the parties concerned.

HARRODS ESTATE OFFICES

IN number, value and turnover the sales and purchases of real estate effected through Harrods Estate Offices this year reach a new record, and have," says Mr. Frank D. James, the professional head of the Offices, "included scores of residential freeholds with from an acre up to over 100 acres, some large farms and a great many town and suburban houses. The enquiry for property has been uniformly keen in all parts of the country. Equally active, too, has been the buying of furniture and works of art at our Trevor Square Galleries. The return from active service of many members of our professional staff has enabled an unprecedented flow of business to be expeditiously handled, and a not unimportant proportion of the work has been done jointly with other leading agencies. The state of the market for all descriptions of real property, apart from a slightly downward tendency for houses of over £10,000, encourages high hopes for the immediate future.

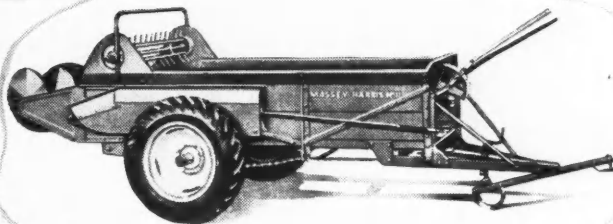
"The year will be remembered as disappointing in some respects. The release of property from the fetters of requisitioning has been slow and partial; the legislative, and the practical or technical, embargo on even the most necessary outlay on private building and repairs has been intensified; and proposals that may vitally affect or decrease the value of land have been pigeon-holed, thus leaving owners in the dark about such matters as development rights. Nobody is surprised that taxation has remained at almost its war-time high level, but the drastic lowering of rates of interest on purely investment funds has been an unwelcome surprise to many in its reaction on private incomes. Part of the rise in the price of real estate is due to the decline in the purchasing power of money, and part to comparisons of the present cost of building (assuming it were possible to build) with that in pre-war periods. Some of the activity of the estate market this year is due to the relaxation of restrictions on motoring. The motor-car is more than ever an indispensable adjunct of a country residential property." ARBITER

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EVENING'S GLITTER



1

1. Paris combines wool and glitter in a dove-grey velours dress traced with silver embroidery. With it go gloves and a full-length cape of bronze faille. Robert Piguet.



2

2. A draped skirt in the 1910 manner and a woollen bolero to match, heavily embroidered with silver and vivid pink paillettes. Balenciaga.



3. Moss crêpe and glitter for a tunic dress in olive green, a short tight skirt, the tunic banded with copper sequins. Marshall and Snelgrove.

PHOTOGRAPH: ANTHONY BUCKLEY

DRESS collections showing styling trends for next spring and summer are being held this month in the great London wholesale houses, and the clothes, bearing their name tabs, will be in the shops from February.

With rationing there can be no drastic change in line, but there is a great deal more variety of fabric and considerable change in the colour range for daytime, a general lowering of hemlines and tightening of belts. The number of dresses that have the hemline widened by panniers, drapery, basques and bustles is very noticeable, both for those with short skirts and for those with long; so is the number of summer dresses, plain and printed, with a deep V neckline and fullness in front of the skirt. The violently tight skirts, hobbles and the exotic drapery have gone and the new line achieves elegance and variety without eccentricity in any shape or form.

The charming new pastels are an outstanding feature of the day clothes. Subtle green-greys and greys that are almost slate blue have largely replaced the classic flannel grey. The shade Wolsey calls Twilight is a grey with a lot of green in it, an attractive soft shade that can be worn with black, copper, plum or cherry accessories with equal success. At Kenup, this new neutral appears as a translucent lichen grey. These are shades used hitherto almost exclusively for

3 homespun tweeds. For the spring, they are shown in



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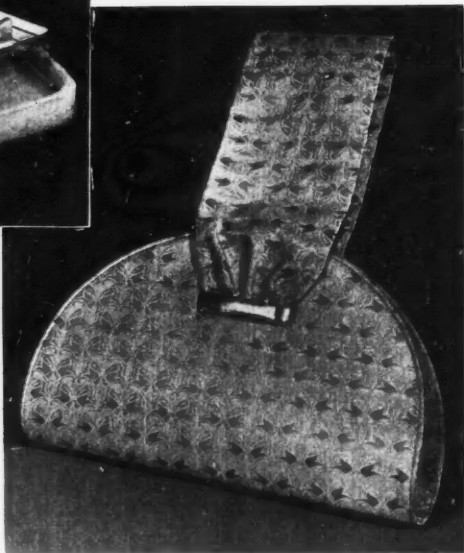
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5. (Left) Miniature jade and gold minaudière encrusted with diamonds. Savory's

4. (Below) Brocade evening bag in two golds in a flower design with a broad handle to sling over the arm. Asprey



firm suitings and smooth fine town tweeds, as well as crêpes, rayon and wool, and jerseys. Other novelties are beiges that verge on to mustard or old gold, some being so warm as to be nearly as yellow as maize. Tans are burnished till they look coppery. Dorville have an opaque greenish white they call Eidelweiss, and they show it in linen for tailored frocks for the summer, a colour that has great chic.

The evening dresses in these wholesale collections all had to comply with the ceiling price regulations, so that elaborate embroidery has been mostly reserved for the export numbers, which positively scintillated, while a discreet touch or two was all that could be managed for the home market. The dark sleek dinner dresses and jumper suits, ankle-length, usually had one focal point, a brilliant medallion or spray of sequins on pocket or shoulder yoke, or a wedge or

U-shaped décolleté outlined with strass. Some skirts had a panel of limp pleats in front, and many had the hips accentuated in some way or another; some, in satin, with a low, strap décolleté to the dress had a little bolero which made them suitable for dinner and theatre as well as full evening occasions. The boleros were very short and powdered with sequins matching a basque decorated in the same way. A powder blue dress in fine wool had its dear little sequined bolero with a stiffened wavy edge like the petal of a flower. A detachable sequined satin basque on a satin dress could be converted into a cape—a good idea. Accordion-pleated skirts in moss crêpe were featured by Spectator with demure white blouses, kimono-sleeved and worn with plain jackets that have neat waists and three-quarter sleeves.

FAILLES, taffetas and moirés with jutting bustle backs and strap décolletés are gorgeous to behold in purple, fuchsia or copper; so are the first of the rich broché satins in rayon that are now released for the home market. There is a lustrous ivory that has a pattern of full-blown brocaded roses, while the new nylon moiré of Heathcoat is a crisp firm fabric that has brought back picture evening frocks with wide skirts gored to a tiny waist and tight-boned bodices. Flowery taffetas printed with large overblown roses or bouquets attracted a lot of attention as they rustled into the salons with their wide skirts floating behind them and the effect heightened by the fichus and capes on the tight bodices. A wonderful British cotton at Spectator is printed in flowery garlands in turquoise, copper, gold and bronze alternately with cream, the stripes used vertically on the skirt that is pleated at the back to form a solid band of flowers, the cream showing as the model moves. One shoulder is left bare on the very décolleté bodice.

Novelties noted at the shows are: Bedouin hoods attached to jersey or crêpe frocks, charming* as Dorville design them so that they make cowl collars when they are folded down on to the shoulders; or, as Koupy show them, as a wide scarf that can be worn either as a hood over the head or over the shoulders and streaming down both fronts of a plaid tweed topcoat. High-boned Edwardian net collars and yokes look very "Oscar Wilde" on some printed dinner frocks.

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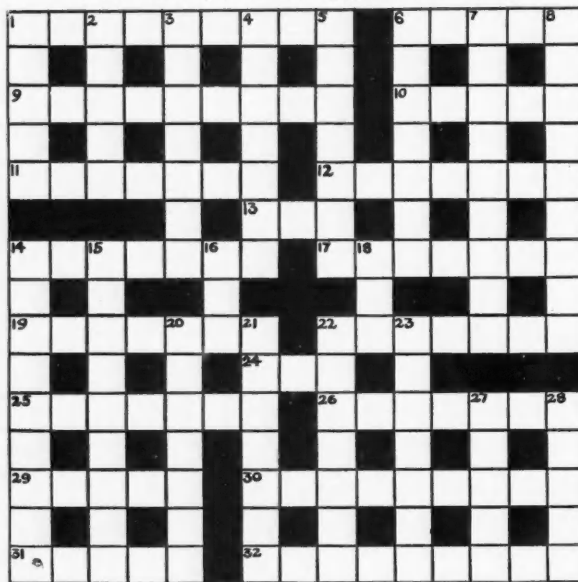
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CROSSWORD No. 882

Two guineas will be awarded for the first correct solution opened. Solutions (in a closed envelope) must reach "Crossword No. 882, COUNTRY LIFE, 2-10, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.2," not later than the first post on Friday, December 27, 1946.

NOTE.—This Competition does not apply to the United States.



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SOLUTION TO No. 881. The winner of this Crossword, the clues of which appeared in the issue of December 13, will be announced in the issue of January 3, 1947.

ACROSS.—1, Silver lining; 8, Along; 9, Regaining; 11, Chatterbox; 12, Jove; 14, Eleven; 15, Immanent; 17, Fir trees; 19, Apulia; 22, Envy; 23, Right about; 25, Doncaster; 26, Spoor; 27, Matter of fact.

DOWN.—1, Storage; 2, Light years; 3, Errors; 4, Lugworms; 5, Nail; 6, Noisome; 7, Macclesfield; 10, Great Eastern; 13, Caspian Sea; 16, Register; 18, Ravenna; 20, Look-out; 21, Sheriff; 24, Kant.

ACROSS

1. It always has its charms (9)
6. The Confessor's queen (5)
9. Gets hung up with a fog starting (9)
10. What Father may be called on to do with the curtain, if there is a play toward (3, 2)
11. They are lucky if they survive Christmas (7)
12. Preliminary environment of the family presents (7)
13. To prosecute is a prerequisite to get a result (3)
14. Scene of the first I across (3, 4)
17. Once fashionable game (7)
19. The next I across will be in due course (7)
22. Listen with vision (7)
24. She may be decorating soon (3)
25. Red but now snow-covered fortress (7)
26. Bursting with joy and song? (7)
29. Even the film kind may turn solid (5)
30. The holly or the ivy (9)
31. A Christmas that bodes no good (5)
32. The Christmas night watchmen (9)

DOWN

1. The star in the East, probably (5)
2. The kid is usually the first one on Christmas day (5)
3. How the tinsel looks on the tree (7)
4. Painter having set aims (7)
5. A kind of pudding, but not necessarily plum (7)
6. Two continents in one (7)
7. A warm corner (5, 4)
8. "This is the month, and this the ———" —Milton, (5)
14. A jolly good roast by the sound of it (9)
15. "The nights are ———; then no planets strike. No fairy takes." —Shakespeare (9)
16. Not the best bread from Sussex (3)
18. It was not hard enough for Mr. Pickwick (3)
20. What the determined strap-hanger does (5)
21. They came round with the hand bells (7)
22. Antidote for those on the dirt-track? (7)
23. Just the number of yards a bowler needs (1, 6)
27. And, therefore, easier? (5)
28. Those on the Christmas card are often rhymed (5)

The winner of Crossword No. 880 is

Mrs. C. R. Colville,
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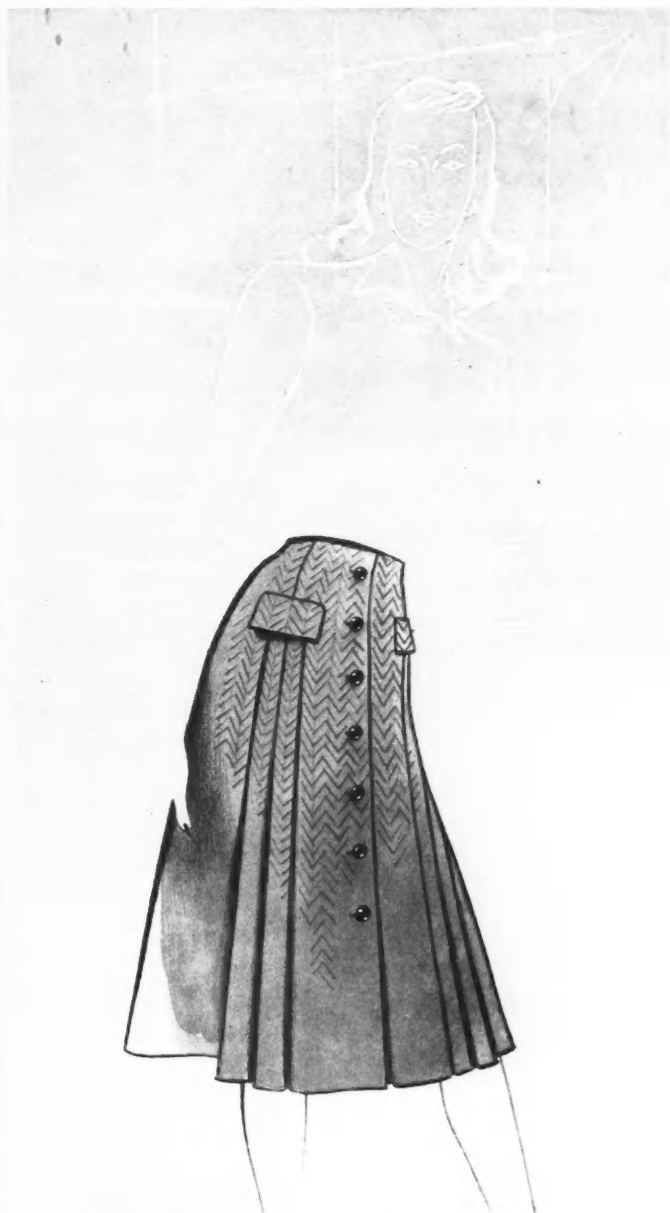


Streamline your waistline in this new GOR-RAY non-austerity skirt. Eight pleats cleverly cut to put the accent on slenderness. It's not expensive and the material is good. The best shops everywhere stock it, but be sure to look for the genuine GOR-RAY label

GOR-RAY

Registered

Gor-ray Ltd 107 New Bond Street, W 1



"By Air"

Under the above name we present a new skirt in tweed in various shades: Heather, Wine, Grey, Royal Blue. £4.19.9. Six coupons. Sizes: 36", 38", 40".



PICCADILLY CIRCUS

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"By Tummel and Loch Rannoch and Lochaber I will go...
By Airlort and by Morar to the Sea!"

Motoring through the historic gateway to the Highlands, we are fairly on the "Road to the Isles." Beyond the picturesque falls of Tummel ("plunging river") the scenery gradually changes from that beloved of the Victorian landscape artist to one of bleak desolation beyond Loch Rannoch, "where naught is heard except the wild wind's sigh." With Ben Nevis on our left hand we come at last, by the shores of many a loch, to enchanted Arisaig, and so to Morar, where the far islands are glimpsed across silver sands and sky-blue seas... The epic invention of John Boyd Dunlop has brought these lovely, remote places within the reach of all.

DUNLOP TYRES



Scene of Alan Brock's
Flight from the Red
coats - "Kidnapped"

SHERRIEMUIR
Earl of Mar was
defeated in the
cause of the Old
pretender

CARSBECK
Renowned for their
Roarin' Name

GLENEAGLES
The Golfers' Paradise

John Knox - The Great Reformer
weighed here

The Legend of the Thistle

Battle of
BANNOCKBURN
To Glasgow

STIRLING
Gateway to the
Highlands
To Edinburgh